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33 FEARED KILLED IN AIR CRASH

Jogjakarta Taken By Republicans?

Paris, December 21.
The Indonesian delegation to the United Nations announced today that the Republicans have recaptured Jogjakarta, capital of the Indonesian Republic.
The Indonesian capital was captured on Sunday by Dutch paratroopers.
The delegation reported that almost all West Java is now rebelling against the Dutch and that there have been uprisings in two cities in East Java.
The delegation said the reports were received through a clandestine Republican radio somewhere in Java.
The reports also said the Republicans had taken two other cities formerly held by the Dutch—Kedjaton and Modjokerto. The Indonesians asserted that 52 Dutch paratroopers were killed during the engagements.
Meanwhile, Dutch military censorship stopped all United Press despatches referring to the Republican Radio which returned to the air giving the Indonesian side of the flighting.—United Press.

Australia Calls For Immediate Cease-Fire In War-Torn Indonesia

London, December 21.

Australia today called for an immediate cease-fire in Indonesia and the return of the Dutch behind their own lines and action by military observers on the United Nations Good Offices Committee to prevent reprisals or executions, as the Indonesian Republic claimed the resistance to the Dutch was increasing both in its own territory and in the Dutch-sponsored Java States outside.

Mr. Joseph B. Chifley, the Australian Prime Minister, and the Australian representatives in Paris had been instructed to raise with the Security Council several possible solutions to the conflict, including a trusteeship of the area, Reuter reported from Canberra.

Announcing his Government's decision after a long Cabinet meeting, Mr. Chifley said: "The Security Council must take to insure its instructions are carried out."

Today's official Dutch communiqué gave only the most meagre details of the Dutch advance, but usually reliable unofficial sources said it was going ahead rapidly in both Java and Sumatra.
Unconfirmed reports said Dutch mechanised brigades from Semarang, in Central Northern Java, occupied Surakarta, second city in the Republic in Central Java, and linked with paratroops in the Republican capital.

At least one well was abuzz at the East Java oil centre of Tjepu, occupied by Dutch Marines yesterday, according to the same reports.

The Indonesian Republican representative in Singapore said fighting had broken out in Jogjakarta, captured by Dutch airborne troops on Sunday, a Reuter message from Singapore reported.
He said a Colonel Harris Naudon was now acting as Commander-in-Chief of the Republican Army in succession to General Soedirman, who was ill in Jogjakarta when captured by Dutch troops.

Avoid Pitched Battles

A Republican communiqué quoted by the representative said

the Republicans were avoiding pitched battles, defending only strategic positions and attacking lines of communications.

In Batavia, the UN Secretary reported that UN officials here have still heard no word on the 19 members of the United States, Belgian and Australian delegations, and "several members trapped in Kalitang, Republican territory."

It is understood the Dutch refused the offer of Colonel William Mayer, chief United States military observer group, to fly to Jogjakarta to inquire into the situation.

"No Censorship"

A notice on the door of the Dutch information building nevertheless said there is "no censorship of political stories" and expressed the hope that all censorship would be removed soon.

The Netherlands Government today rejected the United Nations report condemning its plans to set up an interim Federal Government within the Indonesian Republic.

In a long letter to the Security Council which is to meet tomorrow to consider the new Dutch attack, the Dutch Government repeated its determination to set up an interim Government in Indonesia before the first of the year.

The letter, signed by the Dutch representative, J. H. van Royen, said the Dutch always agreed there was to be a place in the interim Government for Indonesia but other Indonesians outside the Republic could not be expected to wait any longer for the Federal Government promised them, Reuter and United Press.

De Gaullists Lead In Voting

Paris, December 21.
With only one result still to come, results in the election for the Council of the Republic (the French Upper House) today showed the Gaullists leading with more than one-third of the seats.
The 319 results of the total 320 in this election by indirect suffrage gave the following position: Gaullists (Rally of the French People) 122; Socialists 50; Radicals 32; Independents 20; Communists 20; Popular Republicans (the MRP) 17; Rightwing Republican Party of Liberty (Rassemblement national) 17; and others 10.
The election will be held next Sunday.—Reuter.

CNAC Plane From Shanghai Hits Island Near Colony POOR VISIBILITY BLAMED

One of the most disastrous air tragedies in Hong Kong's history—33 passengers and crew believed killed—occurred yesterday afternoon only 10 miles East of Kai Tak airfield.

A China National Aviation Corporation Skymaster, No. 104, carrying 26 passengers and a crew of seven from Shanghai to Hong Kong, crashed on Basalt Island shortly after 2 p.m. yesterday.

The tragedy was indirectly due to Hong Kong's overcast weather which disrupted the schedules of all air lines in the Colony yesterday.

31 Bodies Found

At 9 p.m. yesterday, the plane was reported to be still on fire. Police search parties had by then found 31 bodies strewn near the wrecked plane on the slopes of Basalt Island.

At the time of going to Press, the names of the passengers were still unavailable. The local CNAC office had requested the list from Shanghai earlier in the evening.

Local residents who expected friends or relatives from Shanghai by the ill-fated plane are requested by the police to visit the Kowloon Public Mortuary after 10 a.m. today.

The recovered bodies will be brought by police launches to Kowloon today.

The plane crashed into the slopes of the small island of Basalt in Hong Kong's territorial waters after the pilot signalled that he was "letting down" over Bias Bay to the North.

Aerial Search Made

When no further signals were received from the pilot it was thought that he may have decided to fly to Canton or to Swatow island there temporarily.

When this could not be confirmed, an aerial search was made from Kai Tak, and the plane was located by Water Police Launch No. 2, late in the evening.

It was wrecked, lying on the slopes of Basalt Island, and burning.

Last night, there were numerous inquiries at the CNAC office by local residents who expected friends and relatives by the plane.

At the CNAC office one woman, burst out sobbing bitterly when she heard that no survivors had been found on the island.

Yesterday's tragedy is the first of its kind in which a CNAC plane has been involved in Hong Kong. The Skymaster, piloted by Captain Charles M. Sunby, a naturalised American, left Shanghai for Hong Kong at 8.10 a.m. yesterday.

Traffic Movements Interrupted By Fog

Hong Kong was shrouded in fog early yesterday morning, interrupting traffic movements in the sea and air.

A seaplane arriving here was forced to land at the Central Fairway of the harbour and taxied to Kai Tak, weaving slowly through the numerous ships and small craft.

The British steamer Han-yang had to anchor off Waglan for three and a half hours because of the fog before she could find her way in.

The fog which lifted slowly late in the afternoon also interfered with the schedules of commercial airlines.

Hong Kong Airways were compelled to cancel two morning flights to Canton because of the uncertainty of the fog lifting in time for their return to the Colony.

The two Canton flights in the afternoon were, however, carried out. The Hong Kong Airways plane from Shanghai arrived on time at 3 p.m. yesterday.

CNAC cancelled one flight to Canton and diverted one plane from Shanghai to Canton.

CATC's outgoing flights were

Other crew on board were Co-pilot J. Au, Radio-operator P. H. Kuo, two Air Stewards, Miss S. M. Wong and Miss H. Chu, Engineer F. Chan, and a mechanic whose name was not available last night.

Mr. E. L. Allison, CNAC Operations Manager at Hong Kong, said last night that the Skymaster was reported on course and on schedule up to Swatow. The weather at Hong Kong was overcast and the plane was due here at 2.02 p.m.

Asked whether Kai Tak's Air Control Tower gave the plane the "green light", Mr. Allison said: "Yes."

Break In Clouds

He added that at 1.48 p.m., the pilot reported that he had found a break in the clouds and was "letting down over Bias Bay."

No further reports were received from the pilot. Radio calls to the pilot were also unanswered. After it was ascertained that the plane had not gone to Canton or Swatow, CNAC sent out a search plane from Kai Tak at 4 p.m.

After searching for an hour and a half, flying at times only 500 feet above sea level, the search plane was ordered to return to Kai Tak by the Control Tower because the weather was beginning to deteriorate further and might prevent the plane from returning.

Wreck Burning

On his return, the pilot reported having sighted evidence of a wreck on fire near Basalt Island.

The Water Police were informed and Police Launches No. 1 and No. 2 (a converted Air Rescue craft) were sent to the area. An hour later Mr. Turner, Divisional Superintendent of the Water Police, and Sub-Inspector Pyle, found a badly wrecked and burning plane on the slopes of Basalt Island.

They found no evidence of any survivors.

The 31 bodies counted on the slopes near the wreck were mutilated and burned. Luggage, strewn over the area, showed signs of having been looted.

CNAC management also sent out two launches later with doctors and a first aid team to the island. Shortly before midnight Mr. F. Y. Ho, local CNAC Manager and Mr. Allison also left to inspect the wreck.

About 100 yards between High Island and the Nineteen Group, East of Kai Tak.



Red Raiders Ten Miles From Nanking

Nanking, December 21.

Communist raiders this morning made a hit-and-run attack on the Nationalist forces in the vicinity of Hsaiyueh, to the North East of Pukow, a little more than 10 miles to the North of Nanking, reliable military sources disclosed tonight.

The Communists were said to have numbered 2,000 and withdrew after suffering some casualties.

Air reconnaissance today confirmed a large Communist army is moving from the Pengpu-Hsichow area towards Hungtze Lake, where they presumably could swing Southwards towards the Yangtze River, according to an official source.

The reconnaissance reports said the Communists appeared to be heading in the direction of the Grand Canal East of Hungtze Lake where 40,000 Reds under General Su Yu are steadily pushing back Government troops towards the Yangtze River line.

The reports did not give an estimate of the approximate strength of the moving Communist army. But there seemed to be no doubt that it planned to join up with General Su Yu's forces for a stepped up drive Southwards.

Severe Fighting

Meanwhile, pro-government press reports said severe fighting was raging around Kaoyi, 35 miles North of the Yangtze River and 63 miles North East of Nanking. Kaoyi was captured by the Communists on Sunday but the reports claimed that the Communists were now driven back and that Government forces captured Kaoyi and Fanchuan, 15 miles North and South East of Kaoyi.

The broadcast appealed to the Nationalists to cease senseless sacrifices in the two isolated titles.

The Radio also announced that all peace disturbers and looters in Tongshan prior to the Communist entry were executed.

The British Consul-General in Tientsin, Mr. Scott Burdett, gave a preliminary appreciation of the somewhat affecting Tientsin situation, affecting Tientsin Britons and outlined steps taken locally to obtain a clearer picture when he met representatives of the British community, the British Chamber of Commerce and Britons acting as Area Wardens last night.

It was generally hoped that the Chinese military authorities will soon clarify the stand regarding foreign property, some of which they attempted to turn into strongpoints.—Reuter and United Press.

Stop Press

TANGKU CAPTURED

Tientsin, December 21.

Tangku, the port of Tientsin and Hainan, immediately North of Tientsin, had been captured by Communist forces. It was probably learned tonight.—Reuter.

Russian Mediation In China's Civil War Predicted

Nanking, December 21.

A high Kuomintang source told the United Press today that Dr. Sun Fo's cabinet is likely to make an approach for peaceful settlement of China's civil war with Soviet Russian mediation.

At the same time United Press learned from another reliable source that Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek had given full powers to Dr. Sun to decide on the question of peace or war, and indicated to his closest associates that, if necessary, he would be prepared to step down under certain circumstances.

The Kuomintang source, who is close to the Generalissimo and the new cabinet, said that it is his own observation. However, it is considered a high possibility in view of Dr. Sun's statement yesterday that his government was not opposed to peace talks.

It is also backed up by earlier reliable reports that General Chiang-chung, North West Nationalist Commander, proposed to the Generalissimo the resumption of the peace parleys with Russian mediation.

The composition of Dr. Sun's cabinet is regarded as additional indication that Dr. Sun most likely would make an effort at political settlement.

Of the four Ministers without Portfolio in charge of national policy—General Chang Chun, former Premier, General Chang Chih-chung, Mr. Wang Wen-hao, Dr. Sun's immediate predecessor and Dr. Chen Li-fu—it is known that General Chang Chih-chung openly favoured peace and General Chang Chun and Mr. Wang were said to be inclined to the same view.

Indirect Feelers

The Kuomintang source, who asked his identity not to be disclosed, said Soviet Russia recently made indirect feelers to the Chinese Government, offering their good offices. He would not say through what channels or which officials the feelers were transmitted.

The source said although the Nationalists still maintain they will fight to the bitter end, it is generally realised there is no hope of victory or of obtaining a genuine American aid which is vital to victory.

(Continued on Page 3)



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CHINESE MOHAMMEDAN PILGRIMS IN TRANSIT

Charged With Indecent Exposure

Sidney Firman, a seaman, indecently exposed himself to a little girl at Chatham Road Children's Playground. When the father of the child heard the story, he went out to look for the sailor and found him still in the playground. He was taken to the Tamsui Police Station.

Firman was told to sit down at the station and wait as the officer on duty was busy. While the inspector's attention was occupied elsewhere, Firman walked out and disappeared. After a search, the police eventually found him and charged him with indecent exposure and escaping from custody.

Pleading guilty and saying that he was too drunk to know what he was doing, defendant made a public apology to the parent of the child whom he had insulted.

Mr. W. H. Latimer sentenced him to a fine of \$400 or two months in default at Kowloon yesterday.

Detective (Sub-Inspector) W. H. Summers prosecuted.

Two Generals Reported Killed

Two Generals were reported killed on Sunday by mutineering troops who went over to the Communists.

The killings occurred at Suikai, 20 miles North of Kwangchow.

The victims were Lieutenant General Chang Kung-sung, commander of provincial forces at Kwangchow, and his Deputy commander, Major General Peng Po-sun.

They were inspecting the 10th Provincial Regiment.

Reports said the mutineers were waiting for Communist reinforcements from Hainan Island so that they could form a provincial government on Luchow peninsula with Kwangchow as its base.—Associated Press.

The Kowloon Courts will be closed on Saturday, December 25 (Christmas Day), and Friday, December 31 (New Year's Eve). Both courts will sit as usual on Saturday, January 1, 1949.



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Two hundred Chinese Mohammedans arrived here yesterday by the British steamer Atrous from Mecca on route to Shanghai, ending their 15-week annual pilgrimage.

Two CNAC planes are being chartered to accommodate some of the pilgrims tomorrow, while the rest will leave Hong Kong by a chartered ship.

Hailing from various provinces or North China, mostly from the Sinkiang Province, these Chinese Mohammedans left China last August for their pilgrimage to Mecca—the sole ambition of every Mohammedan.

Many of them are businessmen and are paying their own fares. The Chinese Government, however, has assigned one of its officials to lead the mission and has also requested the China Travel Service to facilitate the pilgrimage by affording possible privileges.

One Month At Mecca

The pilgrims spent eight days at Mecca and nearly a month at Medina—the birthplace of Mohammed—the prophet.

During the voyage, they did charity work for the local mosques by donating funds.

Among the black jacket group, with the peculiar white skull caps, was a 90-year-old Singkang native, who is travelling with his wife, grandson and young granddaughter. The pilgrim was once a "senator" of the ephemeral Chinese Senate in the early days of Dr. Sun Yat Sen's reign shortly after the Revolution.

Practically all of the pilgrims are bearded. Their appearances belie their real selves, as most of the pilgrims are well-to-do followers of Mohammed.

They are being accommodated aboard the Atrous at Kowloon Wharf.

Their luggage includes camp beds, quilts and frugal personal effects.

LOTS SOLD IN N. TERRITORIES

Five cultivation lots in the New Territories were sold by Mr. Appleton at the Ping Shan Land Office yesterday, and with the exception of one, were knocked down to the original applicants at upset prices.

The exception was a .11 acre lot at Ngau Tam Mi which was sold to Mr. Lau Kau at \$65, an increase of \$10 on the original price.

Other pieces of land sold were three at Ngau Tam Mi having an area of .11, .14, and .03 acre, respectively, at \$45, \$60 and \$10, and a .06 acre lot at Siu Hang which went for \$27.

Lane, Crawford Awarded Judgment

Judgment in the sum of \$12,721.20 and costs was awarded at the Supreme Court yesterday by Mr. Justice Reynolds (Acting Puisne Judge), in favour of Lane, Crawford Ltd., against Tong Suen-hing.

The judgment debt represented the price of goods sold and delivered by Lane, Crawford Ltd., to Tong Suen-hing during the months of January and February 1948.

Mr. D. A. L. Wright, instructed by Mr. H. Capstick of Messrs. Deacons, represented Lane, Crawford Ltd., plaintiffs. The defendant, Tong Suen-hing, was neither present in Court nor represented.

Mr. Wright, instructed by Messrs. Brutton and Co., also represented Fung Chik-sin and E. S. C. Brooks, the first and second mortgagees respectively of the remaining portion of Kowloon Inland Lot No. 2095.

Mr. Wright said that a Writ of Foreign Attachment had been issued in this case on November 23 and that all the requirements laid down in the Code of Civil Procedure concerning foreign Attachments had been fulfilled.

Mr. Edward William McCarthy, Accountant of Lane, Crawford Ltd., said that the defendant, Tong Suen-hing, had an account with his firm.

He said that copies of the accounts produced in Court had been sent to defendant and that no objection had been received.

Mr. Justice Reynolds then gave judgment for the plaintiffs in the following terms:

"That judgment be given for the plaintiffs against the defendant for the amount claimed and costs to be taxed; that execution may issue against the defendant's property; The Remaining Portion of Kowloon Inland Lot No. 2095, subject to the prior claims of the first and second mortgagees of the property."

"That the plaintiffs be entitled to payment of their claim and costs out of any balance of the proceeds of sale of the said property by the first mortgagee under his power of sale, after payment of the amount due to the second mortgagee."

DISCHARGED AT CENTRAL

With only the complainant's written statement in a farcical case, Mr. F. X. d'Almeida at Central yesterday discharged Chan Nui, a girl of 17, who was charged with the larceny of \$14.50 from the person of Raiford Scott of the US Navy.

As complainant's ship had left the colony and his written statement of the alleged crime could not be challenged, the girl was accordingly discharged.

The same girl, however, had a previous conviction against her for returning from expulsion and on this charge she was sentenced to six weeks imprisonment and to be re-expelled.

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Polio Case Reported

One case of infantile paralysis—the first of its kind this year—was registered with the Health Authorities during the week ended December 11.

Other infectious diseases reported to the Health Department during the same period were 94 cases of tuberculosis (44 deaths), one case of whooping cough, one of puerperal fever, 10 of measles, three of enteric fever (one death), three of dysentery, eight of diphtheria (two deaths), three of chickenpox and one of meningitis.

Births during the same period were 1,008; and deaths, 240.

Rollicking Fanfare Of Tomfoolery

(By KIMBERLEY)

The YMCA Christmas Pantomime, "Red Riding Hood" is a rollicking fanfare of tomfoolery in the most delightful manner.

This presentation by Jack Shepherd is the boldest effort ever put across by any local group of amateurs. It defies and challenges practically every law of stagecraft and succeeds admirably, judging by the best criterion, the audience.

Only the bare structure of the original fairy tale is preserved in this pantomime written by Jack Shepherd himself under the hood of burlesque. The character as Jellous as his Sexton Temple.

In and out of this framework, Shepherd weaves a comedy of a delightful pattern, giving life to a number of creations such as Dan Detonator and Sam Sloggit. The resultant picture is comparable to a surrealist's idea of a Christmas tree.

There are a few changes and additions. Mother Hood in the pantomime, is given a bigger role. The Fairy Queen is introduced to bring in the romance—and subsequently, the Prince—and also to serve as an antidote to the Witch who shoves the Wolf aside, to play the villain.

From the opening curtain the show extends a hand and asks one to be friendly. And one cannot help but accept it on their terms; not after the pitiful way in which Sam Sloggit asks you to "look after my worldly goods."

The script gives unlimited latitude to the performers who make very little effort to be shy. Best comedians are Jack Honyman as Dan Detonator and Flip Addison as Sam Sloggit. Harold Parker plays an active Mother Hood and makes no qualms about burlesquing the part to infinity.

Good Impression

As Red Riding Hood, Vera Lee lacks little of the charm, coyness and—simplicity of the girl—we know in the book. Her graceful movements on the stage lend much to the good impression she makes.

Louise Clemons stands well in the part of the Prince but falls at times to dominate her scenes.

An important factor from the audience's point of view of this production, is that no time is allowed for the mind to leave the show. Dialogue is happily interrupted by Winifred McKennan's dancing, yodels, and bawdy sylphides or an impromptu turn by the Prompter (the actually appears) or even communal singing.

The script now and then tends to bring in a touch of straight drama, and it is in this that the production fails.

One instance is the witch's caver scene. This could have been given the world effect of the Macbeth witch-cave. As it stands, the scene might be just as well played with full lights on minus the fire and cauldron. However, this can be overlooked as the presentation frankly makes no claim to Art, accounting only upon one endeavour to entertain. In this, it is vastly successful.

Convent Speech Day Grand Occasion

Speech Day at the Maryknoll Convent School yesterday was a grand occasion for school girls. Pupils with their friends and parents attended the function in style, at which the Governor distributed the prizes.

A choral group of girls assembled in the yard, lined with the uniformed guides of the School, and began the carols as the Governor arrived.

Entertainment was provided with a presentation of a play depicting the carol "Good King Wenceslas" which was colourful and well produced.

In her report, read by Father Malone, Regional Superior of the Maryknoll Mission in Hong Kong, the school mistress said that the chief difficulty was the question of the number of entrants. The School has at present a staff of 27 teachers for 600 students distributed among 19 classes. It could not accept any more applications until more class rooms were available.

Kindergarten however would accept enrolment each new school year.

It was also said in the report that a new science laboratory has been installed. This will serve for Biology classes and for the girls, who have found the subject interesting.

"It is not only that the study of biology will show the young minds the way to clear thinking, but it will also help the students to appreciate more fully the miracles that surround them in Nature," the Head Mistress emphasised in the report.

"The Hong Kong branch of the Maryknoll Convent School has also now begun to function and has a roster of 160 students. We are looking forward to being able to accommodate more."

The Head Mistress commented upon the School's Guides, the 6th Kowloon, and expressed thanks to Miss Beryl Goldenberg, the organiser. Their group, the Hong Kong Guide's Guild, this year, the report concluded.

Governor's Speech

After presenting the prizes to the successful candidates of the annual examination and a friendly speech congratulating the school for its achievements and the girls for their success, he referred to portions of the Head Mistress' report, and said that he was pleased with it. He also congratulated the Guides upon winning the shield.

The prize winners' certificates: Zenia Chan, Alice Chow, Anita Liang, Cecilia Lim, Francis Lee, Geraldine Silva, Esther Tan (honours), Tina Tan (honours), Honours, Esther Tan; Highest in Biblical Knowledge, Geraldine Silva.

Class 3: Highest in English, Mary Virginia Liang; Highest in Biblical Knowledge, Mary Virginia Liang; Highest in Mathematics, Veronica Tang; Highest in Chinese, Veronica Tang; Highest in Geography, Rita Sequerra.

Class 4: Highest in English, Elizabeth Liang; Highest in Biblical Knowledge, Kitty Pang; Highest in Mathematics, Lee Kit Hing; Highest in Chinese, Lee Kit Hing; Highest in English, Linda Lee; Highest in Mathematics, Linda Lee; Highest in Biblical Knowledge, Stella Ng; Highest in Chinese, Christina Tang.

Highest Average: Class 6A: First, Ivy Woo; Second, Jennie Moel.

Class 6B: First, Alice Teang; Second, Dorothy Yim.

Class 7A: First, Patricia Woo; Second, Louise Liang.

Class 7B: First, Esther Yuen; Second, Lily Ng.

Class 8A: First, Felicitas Pomeroy; Second, Maria Allala Basto.

Class 8B: First, Irene Lui; Second, Jennie Ho.

Class 9A: First, Lily Young; Second, Beatrice Silva.

Class 10: First, Pearl Lee; Second, Mary Lou Souza.

Anglo-Java Estates' Meeting

The annual general meetings of the Anglo-Java Estates, Limited, and the Java Consolidated Rubber and Coffee Estates, Limited, were held yesterday at the offices of J. A. Wattle and Company, Limited.

The 1946-47 accounts of the Anglo-Java Estates, Limited, showed a loss of £1,210, 10. 10, which was made up almost entirely of office expenses in Hong Kong, as remittances from Java have not been permitted by the authorities there.

The Chairman's report follows in part: "Practically all the plantations belonging to the company have been reported as destroyed. It has not yet been possible for the company's representatives to visit Limburg, Djarangan and Cerang Estates, but a visit has been made to Panawan Estate, which confirms the total destruction of all buildings and machinery, and the coffee plantations completely unrooted or stumped. The area is still considered by the military as dangerous. Until it becomes safe, there is nothing to be done except to consider plans for dealing with the Estate when it has been recovered by the Agents."

"The appalling destruction reported recently in the South Malang area has hit the Company very badly indeed, as both Limburg and Djarangan Estates were very fine rubber plantations, and before the war, were giving very high yields for extraordinary low cost. As soon as any further news of a reliable nature is received, shareholders will be informed. In the meantime, steps have had to be taken to dispose of the services of some of the planting staff who have been standing by."

"The political situation in Java is still very obscure, and in certain areas the security position has deteriorated. The present deadlock must be resolved, as it means that a large part of a very rich and productive area of Java is out of commission, but the chances of a peaceful settlement do not look too hopeful."

The meeting was attended by Mr. F. M. Welch (Chairman), Messrs. H. Kadoorie, A. E. Fenton (Directors), Mr. C. E. Abbas (representing the Secretaries and General Managers, J. A. Wattle and Company, Limited, and Shareholders representing 60,800 shares).

A loss of P.414, 10. 2, during the year ended December 31, 1947, was recorded by the Java Consolidated Rubber and Coffee Estates, Limited.

The Chairman added: "Your Directors had hoped that during 1948 it might have been possible to re-occupy the Estates and to have made a start with production. Unfortunately, up to August 1948, the only reports received were statements by various natives who had crossed the demarcation line between the area held by the Republicans, where the Estates are situated, and the areas held by the Netherlands Indies Government."

"These statements were regarded as probably unreliable, but did tend to show that considerable damage had taken place, and was still taking place, on Estates in Republican held territory. Then in August, reliable reports were received of the senseless and appalling destruction which had taken place in the South Malang area."

"There is no need for me to emphasise the seriousness of this news for the future of your company, and shareholders will be informed immediately any further reliable information is received."

Those who attended the meeting were: Mr. W. A. Welch (Chairman), Messrs. H. Kadoorie, A. E. Fenton (Directors), Mr. C. E. Abbas (representing the Secretaries and General Managers, J. A. Wattle and Company, Limited, and Shareholders representing 128,510 shares).

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Three Accused Discharged In "Marine Engine" Case



Special Royal Silver Wedding Stamps will be on sale at the General Post Office and other post offices in the Colony beginning today. The denominations on sale today will be HK\$10 and 10 cents.

\$200-Fine For Assault On Constable

Found guilty of assaulting a police constable, A. David, aged 39, merchant residing at 43 Conduit Road, was fined \$200 by Mr. F. X. d'Almeida at Central yesterday.

The prosecution by Inspector H. Moran said that the alleged offence took place outside the Star Ferry Wharf on the night of December 12 when defendant, driving private car No. 2835, stopped outside the ferry wharf as the red traffic light was against him.

It was further alleged that defendant, on being held up by the constable, used abusive language to the constable.

When the green light was switched on and defendant was about to proceed, the constable went up and asked for defendant's driving licence.

Defendant again used profane language, and got out of the car and gave the constable a blow on the chest.

While the constable was taking down the particulars from defendant's licence, David snatched the pencil from the constable's hand, at the same time grabbing hold of the constable's shoulder with some force to let down his number.

Complainant after his duty went to Central Station and made a report to his superiors, which led to defendant being sent for and charged.

Defendant, conducting his own defence, denied that he had assaulted the constable, but admitted that he had taken hold of the constable's shoulder to look at his number.

Inspector Moran in asking for a serious view to be taken, said that this case should not be treated as other cases, for defendant was a man above the average and should have known better than to assault a police officer.

Dr. Arthur Woo will address the Y's Men's Club of Hong Kong at the Roof Garden, Hong Kong Hotel, tomorrow. His subject will be "European Experiences". The Club will meet at 12.45 p.m.

When the cross examination of the Naval Provost Marshal Miller was completed before Mr. Hin-shing Lo at Central yesterday in the Naval Yard "Marine Engine" case, the magistrate, in concurring with defence counsel's submissions, ordered the discharge of Dennis Khan, Cheng Chui and Chan Yuen on the grounds that there was insufficient evidence to substantiate a charge of receiving.

At the close of yesterday's hearing, counsels for Horton, Stewart and Smith made lengthy submissions in respect of the three remaining defendants and stressed that, on the most uncorroborative evidence produced by the prosecution, they should also be discharged.

P.O. Horton is charged with larceny of two engines, Stewart and Smith, are charged with conspiracy and Khan, Cheng and Chui were charged with receiving the engines, knowing the same to have been stolen.

Inspector Willerton presented, while defendants were represented by Messrs. Marcus da Silva, A. S. C. Cumber, Y. K. Kan and P. J. Griffiths.

Robert John Wiggenton, Superintendent in Charge of the Dockyard police, said at 10.30 a.m. on June 30, as a result of a report received, he immediately phoned the Naval Store Officer and asked him if he could let him have the licence numbers of any lorries ordered by the SPDC Dockyard that morning.

At 10.45 a.m. he received further information from the Transport Section that a lorry had been ordered, and that lorry No. 30075 had been sent to the SPDC Dockyard that morning.

He said he had given no instructions to the police at the main gate to keep watch on any special lorries.

His reason, he said, was to find out how stores had been stolen and whether they left the Yard in bulk, by forged passes or with the assistance of the police.

At 11.10 a.m. he received information from Dempster that a lorry had left the Yard loaded with two large boxes suspected to have been stolen from the SPDC Dockyard.

He said, he immediately accompanied Dempster to the gate and there saw P.C. Austin who was on duty.

Handed Him Pass

Austin handed to him a pass which stated that lorry No. 30075 had left the gate with two cases for Talkoo Dockyard. The pass Austin said was signed by the head of the Department, Mr. C. Brooks.

In possession of the pass, he examined the book of signatures of persons authorised to sign passes, and found that the signature on the pass compared favourably with the specimen signature of C. Brooks in the book.

Witness said that when he noticed on the pass that the cases were destined for Talkoo Dockyard, he at once suspected that they must have been stolen.

He immediately gave instructions to Dempster to follow the lorry in a taxi. Dempster was accompanied by the Naval Provost Marshal Miller, a Naval PO in civilian clothes and a Chinese detective.

At 11.30 a.m. PO Brooks came to the main gate, reported to him the larceny of two marine engines and brought with him his official pass book which showed that the original of the duplicate pass No. 388 had not been signed, but that an original pass on the previous page had been previously signed.

At 12 noon, Horton, Chan Yuen, Dennis Khan and Cheng Chui were brought to his office by Dempster.

As he had no interpreter, he asked Khan if he would undertake

Personalia

Week-end departures from the Peninsula Hotel included Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Warner, Mrs. J. Helm, Mr. and Mrs. P. Thomas, Mrs. V. Namdoff, and Mrs. C. J. Grundmann, Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Rosenberg, Captain and Mrs. Jerry Griebel, Mrs. E. E. Willoughby, Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Allison, Messrs. H. T. Samson, E. Zulauf, John Casey, T. M. Bent, G. T. Bent, A. Wilner, W. T. Thomas, Park Sel-yung, J. A. Royola, J. C. A. Chen, R. E. Kahn, W. Cowden, D. M. Muckenzie, M. Clancy, N. N. Taylor, and the Reverend Mr. J. Joubilet.

Among the new arrivals at the Peninsula Hotel during the week-end were Mr. and Mrs. I. R. Hamilton, Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Escamio, Mr. and Mrs. G. Y. Yu, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Rabbelet, Mrs. M. Fletcher, Mrs. H. Childers, Messrs. E. H. Wood, P. Krell, C. Jamieson, R. D. L. Gordon, W. L. Bond, C. F. Lambert, K. Moskow, F. C. Ropes, C. F. Sun, T. C. Kung, C. C. Nich, E. D. Cumins, Geoffrey, Yeh, A. P. Loggreen, J. W. Foxworthy, John Const, A. R. Duncan, G. Walthew-Williams, and R. J. Richards.

Captain G. H. Torrible, Messrs. J. J. Murray, M. A. Jensen, Mrs. D. M. Barlen and the Rev. Mr. W. Tyng left Hong Kong for Shanghai yesterday by the ss. Shengking.

Mr. J. S. Scott left the Colony for Swatow yesterday by the ss. Hanyang.

Among the passengers who arrived here yesterday from Canton by the ss. Fatsien were Mrs. N. M. Elson, Mrs. E. M. Remedios, Mrs. E. S. Wool House, Mrs. Ruth E. Price, Mrs. Gladys E. Fisher, Mrs. Alice E. Ruhl, Messrs. James Love and Henry Barton.

Departures from the Peninsula Hotel on Monday included Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Lynch, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Rabbelet, Mr. and Mrs. Schoenfeld, Mrs. M. Fletcher, Mrs. H. Childers, Mr. and Mrs. K. H. L. Butler, Mrs. F. C. Ropes, Captain and Mrs. J. Costello, Messrs. W. G. Brown, E. Cumins, P. A. Cullins, A. R. Duncan, G. W. Williams, R. D. L. Gordon, C. Jamieson, Edward H. Wood, G. B. Read, and John Coast.

Among the new arrivals at the Peninsula Hotel on Monday were Mr. and Mrs. J. Moss, Mrs. C. A. De Lao, Mrs. N. De Noel, and Commander J. M. Pomeroy.

Dr. and Mrs. V. N. Atienza who have been on holiday in the United Kingdom and Ireland, France, Spain and Portugal, are expected to return to Hong Kong by ss. Aeneas on December 30.

The forthcoming wedding has been announced of Mr. Arthur Cecil Venables, Prison Officer, of Victoria Prison, and Miss Garry of 22 Wyndham Street, ground floor.

COMPANY'S STATEMENT

A statement on the rubber output of their estates in Malaya for November was issued by A. R. E. Kill and Sons Limited, yesterday. Details of the output of the different companies follow:

	November Financial (LBS.)	Year to date (LBS.)
Bute Consolidated	70,000	807,100
Domination	124,200	1,303,000
Kohat	64,411	674,897
Surget Duri	87,500	345,400
Shah Pahang	80,000	307,000
Shah Kedah	34,400	228,000
Padang	130,018	253,371
Tanah Merah	39,710	217,883
	117,466	839,821

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Ferry Service Extension

During the coming holiday days, the Star Ferry service will be extended as follows: Christmas Eve, and New Year's Eve: every 10 minutes to midnight, then every 15 minutes to 2.15 a.m. (from Kowloon) and 2.30 a.m. (from Hong Kong).

The Normal Sunday service will be maintained on Boxing Day, and usual services will be run on New Year's Day.

Shipping Briefs

Nearly 2,000 tons of coal and firewood arrived here on Monday from Sandakan.

Nine Chinese passengers disembarked here.

The master reported fresh North East winds with rough seas and heavy swells.

The Chinese steamer Hai Fel brought more Chinese refugees from North China on Monday.

Among the tons of luggage are a few cars belonging to passengers, most of whom are en route to Canton.

The Colony will see another American naval craft this week with the arrival of USS Southernland.

The destroyer, arriving here on December 24, is due to depart on January 1.

The Ocean-going tug, Albia Moller, safely towed a fishing vessel into Hong Kong water on Monday after riding strong North East monsoon seas en route from Foochow.

The Mollers' tug left the Colony on December 2 for Matal Island or Foochow for the mission with Mr. P. J. Hawksworth, formerly master of the Empire Park, and two British officers and a crew of eight Chinese.

Russian Mediation Predicted

(Continued from Page 1)

Under such circumstances, he said, it is only to be expected, that Dr. Sun's government would try to make the best out of a bad bargain to maintain whatever portion of the political power which the Kuomintang has built up during its revolutionary struggle.

He said it is the opinion of most government officials that Soviet Russia is the only outside power who can prevail upon the Communists to stop their military offensive for peace talks with the ultimate objective of forming a coalition Government, United States mediation is now ruled out because of the Communist anti-American attitude.

The Kuomintang source said Russia's anxiousness for a peaceful settlement is understandable since it is to her advantage to avoid violent reactions among the Western bloc nations, which is likely to be caused by Communist military occupation of the Nanjing-Shanghai area and of the whole of China.

He said, he contended, it may be Russia's calculation that a political settlement would facilitate rather than impede the Communists taking over the whole country as evidenced by what happened in Czechoslovakia and Poland.—United Press.

Accountant Tries To Forge Papers

When his client showed reluctance in fulfilling payment of fees almost one month overdue, an auditor's accountant, at the end of his patience, went to the extent of forgery of a public document in an attempt to force his client's hand.

Accountant in the employ of S. C. Tong Audit Office, at 28 Wyndham Street, first floor, To Tin-yat came before Mr. W. H. Lattimer at Kowloon yesterday to answer the charges of forging and uttering inland Revenue form 81 with intent to deceive.

Mr. Alfred Y. Hon was counsel for the defence.

Sometimes in May this year, the prosecution stated, defendant was introduced through his brother to a man named Chan Ping, proprietor of the Ngai Sang Motor Car Company, at 48 Sai Yeung Choi Street, Chan stated that he wished to engage the services of an auditor to prepare his tax returns as he was not conversant with accounts. Acting on behalf of S. C. Tong, defendant offered the services of his office and it was finally agreed that HK\$250, was the sum to be paid as fees.

On July 6, defendant visited Chan at his shop and told him that the returns had been completed. He presented the bill for his fees, whereupon Chan paid him HK\$50 on account, with a promise to pay the balance at some later date.

Unsuccessful Visit

Two subsequent visits to Chan proved unsuccessful as he kept on postponing the date of payment.

On August 3, defendant went again to Chan's place and finding him away, left on Inland Revenue form 81 in the hands of an assistant in the shop. The form was a reminder that if returns were not submitted within seven days, the Inland Revenue office would send an assessor to make the assessment, without further notice.

Chan took the form to the Inland Revenue Department on August 16 and as a result of what he was told there, reported to the Mongkok Police Station the following day, when the forged document was handed to Detective Sub-Inspector A. Leslie.

XMAS CONCERT

A concert of Christmas music will be given at St. Stephen's Girls' College by the Hong Kong Singers at 9.15 p.m. today.

The final rehearsal was held at St. John's Cathedral Hall on Monday.

The proceeds of the concert will be donated to St. John's Cathedral.

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X'MAS DAY DECEMBER 25th DINNER DANCE TILL 1 A.M.	X'MAS DAY DECEMBER 25th TEA DANCE 4.00-6.00 P.M.	X'MAS DAY DECEMBER 25th DINNER DANCE TILL 1 A.M.
BOXING DAY DECEMBER 26th DINNER DANCE TILL 1 A.M.	BOXING DAY DECEMBER 26th TEA DANCE 4.00-6.00 P.M.	BOXING DAY DECEMBER 26th DINNER DANCE TILL 1 A.M.
NEW YEAR'S EVE DECEMBER 31st GALA DINNER DANCE TILL 2 A.M.	NEW YEAR'S EVE DECEMBER 31st SPECIAL DINNER DANCE TILL 2 A.M.	NEW YEAR'S EVE DECEMBER 31st SPECIAL DINNER DANCE TILL 2 A.M.
NEW YEAR'S DAY JANUARY 1st, 1941 DINNER DANCE TILL 1 A.M.	NEW YEAR'S DAY JANUARY 1st, 1941 TEA DANCE 4.00-6.00 P.M. DINNER DANCE till 1 a.m.	NEW YEAR'S DAY JANUARY 1st, 1941 SPECIAL DINNER DANCE TILL 2 A.M.

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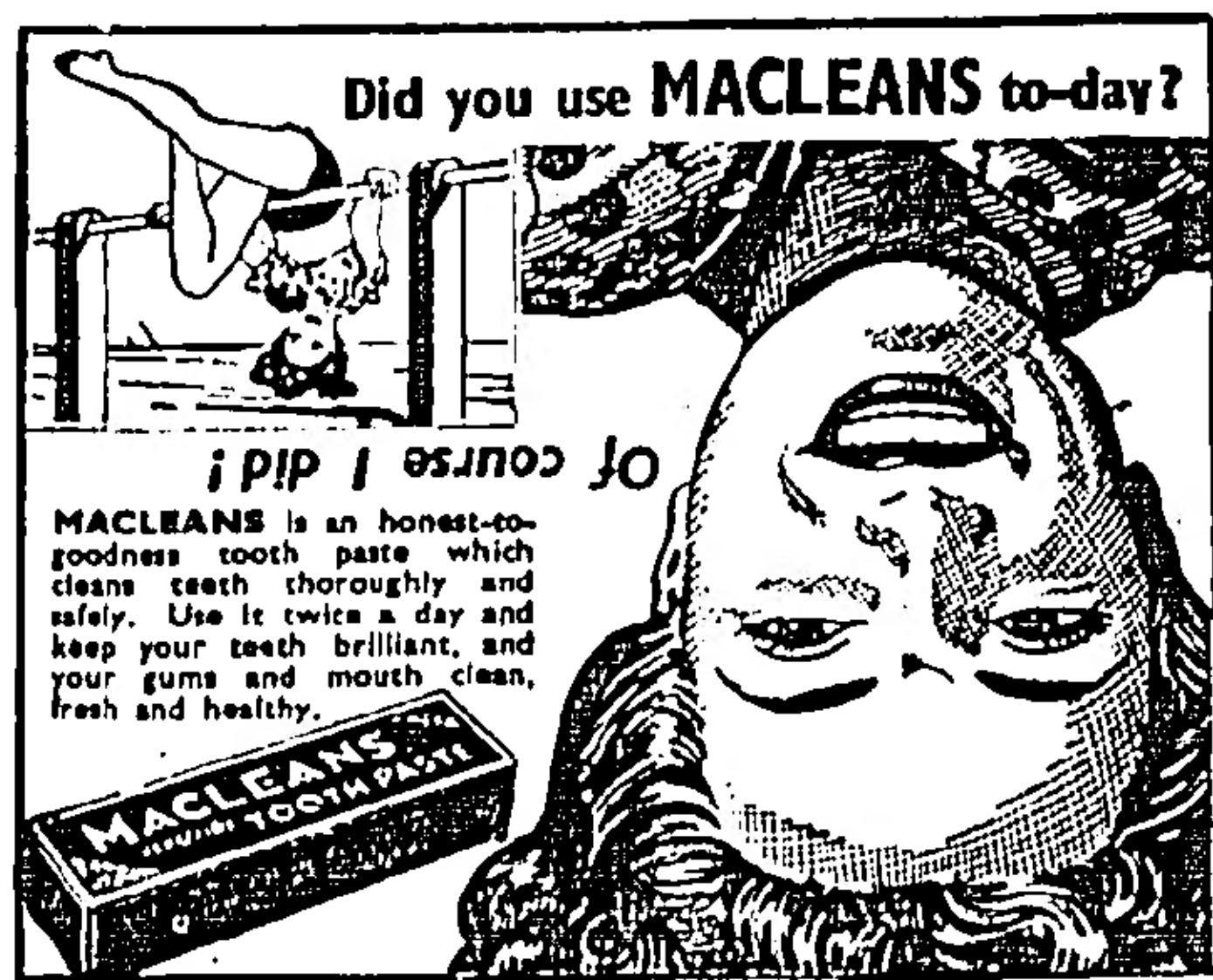
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NEW DRUG TREATMENT IN BRONCHIAL ASTHMA

New York, December 21.

A group of Brooklyn physicians report striking results in the treatment of bronchial asthma with a new drug.

The drug, actually a combination of two drugs, is known as hydryllin and is described as the most effective found so far in the treatment of asthma.

The report comes from Drs. Harry Markow, Samuel Bloom, and Harry Leibowitz, of the Department of Medicine, Division of Applied Immunology, Beth-el Hospital. Results of their studies, reported in the New York State Journal of Medicine, are based on 81 cases of allergy, including 46 cases of bronchial asthma.

The drug, they report, is in tablet form. At the outset one tablet a day was given, and then the dosage was increased in some cases to six a day.

In a group of hay fever cases, 14, or 52 per cent, obtained definite relief.

In six cases of perennial, allergic rhinitis the results were disappointing, since in only one case was there any relief experienced.

"However, in the group of 36 asthmatics and 10 asthmatics complicated by or complicating nasal allergy, the results were decidedly better than have been experienced to date with other anti-histaminic drugs," they said.

The Reactions

An anti-histaminic drug apparently neutralizes the action of histamine, the suspect in the case of allergies.

The new drug, a combination of benadryl (a trade name) and aminophyllin, caused some unfavourable reactions in the patient including drowsiness.

THOREZ BOMBAST

Paris, December 21.

The Secretary General of the French Communist Party, M. Maurice Thorez, said in a speech at Limoges today: "We have said that we would never make war on the Soviet Union. If the Government tries to proceed against us because of this declaration it will prove that it is preparing for war."

"We shall remain Frenchmen who fight for peace and liberty. We shall never be the allies of the Germans and of the allies of France for an anti-Soviet crusade."—Reuter.

weakness and dizziness, but the benefits gained in most cases offset the bad effects.

"From evidence presented in this group of 81 cases," they said, "it can readily be seen that the chief value of hydryllin as an anti-histaminic agent will be in the treatment of bronchial asthma, either alone or when complicated by other types of allergy. "While the most striking results were noted in the treatment of bronchial asthma, hydryllin has also proved of some value in the treatment of hay fever."—United Press.

Socialised Medicine For Philippines?

Manila, December 21.

President Elipido Quirino proposes that the Philippines Government co-operate with physicians to introduce socialised medicine to the nation.

He addressed the fourth annual meeting of the Philippine College of Surgeons.

"I don't know whether poverty is the chief cause of illness or illness the chief cause of poverty," the chief executive said.

"But in either instance it is uneconomic, not to say inhuman, to continue witnessing illness without helping the sick to rehabilitate themselves."

"There is need for the Government and the practitioner to dovetail their efforts in order to reach the masses and thus democratise medical service."

President Quirino reminded the profession of its pledge to render medical aid without looking into the financial ability of the patient.

He cautioned: "Your mission of alleviating the sufferings of the masses will never be accomplished if you place financial consideration uppermost in your work."

Socialised medicine has been practiced with great success in other countries, President Quirino said.

He stated: "There is no reason why we cannot launch an aggressive crusade against disease in this country by devising a workable approach to the problem of dispensing socialised medicine."—Associated Press.

EXPORTS PARALYSED BY LACK OF TREATY

New York, December 21.

Japanese export trade will be paralysed until the question of war reparations is settled and the peace treaty signed.

Dr. Shichiro Matsui, Labour Relations expert, said this in an interview here today.

Dr. Matsui is the first Japanese permitted to come to the United States to lecture since the war.

The Japanese Labour Standards Act of 1947 established minimum wages and maximum hours in many industries, he said.

This did much to end the era of cheap labour which before the war made Japan a formidable trade competitor.

"Employers now are trying to offset this by cutting their other industrial costs, but they are without capital. Both export and import trade now are controlled by a government agency and this does not make for speed," he stated.

Trade Hampered

"Japanese trade will have to wait for the signing of the peace treaty and agreement on reparations before there will be any real reconstruction and rehabilitation," he said.

"This is hampering Japanese trade to a great extent as manufacturers do not want to make plans until they know what their opportunities are for reviving trade."

Since the war Japan has imported cotton from the United States but can not find a market for her manufactured goods, he continued. India is getting into the textile market, he said, and China is still producing with cheap labour.

"However," he added, "we feel in Japan we will be able to compete with India and China by concentrating on the manufacture of finer goods."

Unions Organised

Dr. Matsui has been a labour relations adviser, both for the Allied and Japanese governments. Democratization of Japan

will necessarily be a long process but important strides in that direction are being made under the occupation, he stated. It will take some years to break down the feudalistic concepts in Japan toward labour and industrial relations, he said.

However, he pointed out that in three years, over 6,500,000 workers have been organized in 35,000 local trade unions and General Douglas MacArthur has encouraged this trend.

Meanwhile, in Washington today the 11-nation Far Eastern Commission formally approved the formation of unions, co-operatives and other organizations by Japanese farmers.

The Commission sets basic policies for the occupation of Japan.

The Commission advised that the policy take effect gradually so as to safeguard the immediate economic needs and prevent avoidable dislocation of food control measures.

The statement said farmers should be encouraged to form organizations for their economic and social benefit with full protection of occupational authorities and the Japanese Government. They should be organized along democratic lines and be able to admit persons who are not genuine farmers.—Associated Press.

Japanese Strikers Go Back

Tokyo, December 21.

Japan's striking labour unions were the first to feel the effects of Washington's nine-point austerity programme yesterday when Mr. Chester Hopler, Chief of SCAP's Labour Section, summoned leaders of electric workers, seamen, coalminers and private railway workers unions and advised them to call off their strikes.

The meeting between the Labour Chief and representatives of unions occurred yesterday morning.

Late last night, the Seamen's Union, taking Mr. Hopler's advice, informed the Ministry of Transportation of its decision to accept the mediation plan formulated by the Central Labour Relations Board, and immediately ordered members back to work.

Yesterday was the tenth consecutive day of the maritime strike and the seventeenth strike day since the wave of tie-ups began on November 29.—Reuter.

PALESTINE WAR IS OVER

New York, December 21.

Dr. Ralph Bunche, acting United Nations mediator in Palestine, declared today that the war in Palestine is over.

Dr. Bunche arrived from Europe and said, "I'd say the war in Palestine is over. Any fighting going on there is only local incidents. The problem of Palestine is well on the way to final solution. The Jewish State is firmly established and the immigration problem also well on the way to solution."—United Press.

HIGH COMMISSIONERS TO RANK AS ENVOYS

London, December 20.

Canada, India and South Africa announced today that Commonwealth High Commissioners in their capitals will rank as Ambassadors.

Hitherto, the High Commissioners have ranked behind the foreign Ambassadors on formal occasions.

The Commonwealth Prime Ministers at the London Conference in October agreed that their status should be raised and made recommendations which were not disclosed at the time.

The South African Government said that the new arrangement will come into force on January 1.

All the announcements said that the position of the dozen of the Diplomatic Corps would still be held by the senior foreign Ambassador.

The High Commissioners will take precedence as if they had the rank of Ambassadors when they first arrived, and will follow seniority of Commonwealth countries.—Reuter.

"TOKYO ROSE" IN TREASON TRIAL

San Francisco, December 21.

Additional arguments on a motion to dismiss the treason indictment against Mrs. Iva Toguri d'Aquino were heard in Federal court today.

Mrs. d'Aquino is also known as one of the "Tokyo Roses" of wartime propaganda broadcasts from Japan.

Her attorney, Wayne Collins, argued that Mrs. d'Aquino is being placed in double jeopardy because she has served a prison term in Japan, that the statute of limitations is operative in her case, and that the United States is without jurisdiction because she is a Portuguese citizen through marriage.

The Government attorney, Tom Do Wolfe, contended that the

questions of double jeopardy and statute of limitations are not matters for pre-trial decision, that the question of whether she owes allegiance to the United States and thus can be guilty of treason is for a jury to decide, and that six of the overt acts charged against her occurred before her marriage to d'Aquino, a citizen of Portugal.

Further memorandums and briefs will be filed by the attorneys today before the court takes the motion under consideration.—Associated Press.

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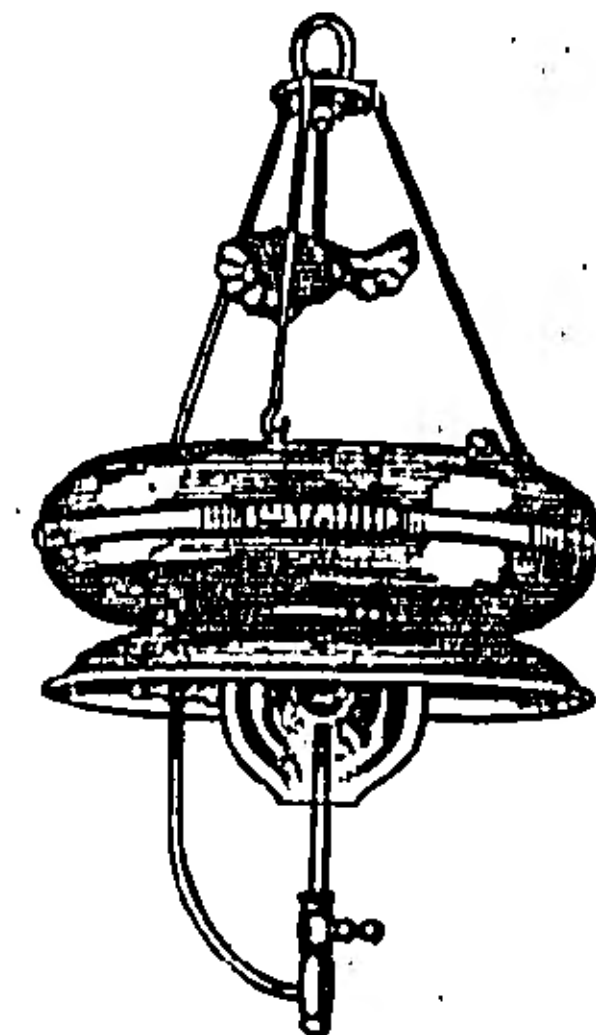
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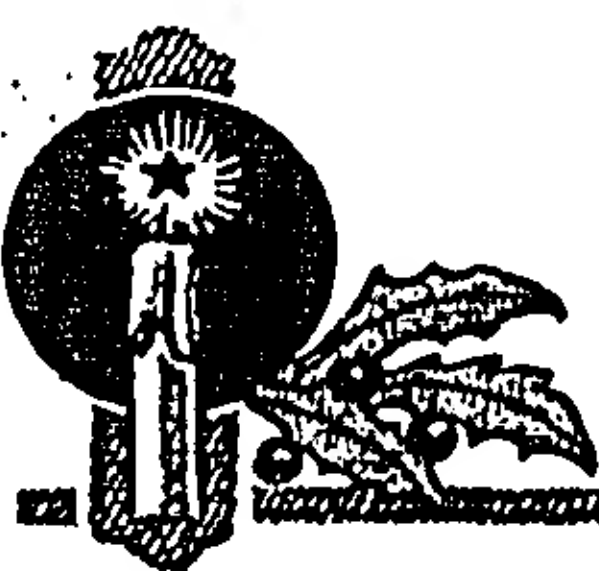
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NOTICE

"CAMEL" Brand Vacuum Flasks

It is a matter of regret to us that our arrangements preclude us from retailing to the public any "Camel" Brand Vacuum Flasks but in view of the many requests we have received during the current Exhibition of Chinese Products, we have arranged to put on sale at our stall a limited quantity at special prices which will be available to the public from 18th December until sold out.

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77-88 Sai Yee Street, Mongkok, Kowloon, Tel. 50895.

TIENTSIN PREPARES

DEFENCES ERECTED IN
FORMER ITALIAN AREA
CATHOLIC CHURCH
NOW FORTRESS

Tientsin, December 21.

The first line of Tientsin's defences is being constructed along the main street of the former Italian concession which runs parallel to the Tientsin-Poiping railway line one block away. Reuter's correspondent toured this district and witnessed alarming scenes which indicate that the relative peace which some dihedrals enjoy besides their fireplaces may receive a rude shock.

Troops In
Shanghai
Incident

Shanghai, December 21. Shanghai's Eastern Wayside district, where the majority of European displaced persons live, was in a turmoil yesterday.

A band of Chinese soldiers broke into a cafe shortly after midnight on Sunday and practically destroyed the entire furnishings of the cafe when their attempts to rob the premises met with failure.

Anglo-Dutch
Plantations
Meeting

A loss of £684,011 was sustained by the Anglo-Dutch (Java) Plantations, Limited, during the year ended December 31, 1947. This was announced on Monday at the Company's annual general meeting of shareholders.

Those who attended the meeting were Mr. W. A. Welch (Chairman), Messrs. H. Kadoorie, A. E. Fenton (Directors), Mr. C. E. Abbas (representing the Secretaries and General Managers, J. A. Wattie and Company, Limited), and Shareholders representing 151,450 shares.

The Chairman's report follows in part: "The Company has suffered a very serious loss in the reported destruction of all buildings and machinery, and almost all the 2,884 acres of rubber planted on Giocoonmarie-Pontolacuan Estate in the South Malang area of Java. It has not yet been possible for the Company's representatives to visit this Estate.

"Company's other property, Thurel Estate in another part of Java was declared safe and re-occupied by the Company's representative in April 1948.

"Unfortunately, the security position has deteriorated very considerably during the last few months and there have been several attacks on neighbouring estates and villages. At the moment, there is an estate guard of twenty-five men under the leadership of one of the assistant managers, and a section of troops is also billeted on the Estate.

"The estimated output for the financial year ended December 31, 1949 is 730,000 pounds. Manufacture is being carried out by means of hand machines and temporary smokehouses. It is hoped to install a sheeting battery and engine, and also to build better smoking accommodation during 1950, but these improvements will depend on the security situation. All the buildings were destroyed or seriously damaged, and these are being replaced gradually."

The Oldest
Appendix Out

Horsham, December 20. Mrs. Eliza Hammond of Horsham, aged 91, is recovering from an operation for appendicitis. She is believed to be the oldest person to survive such an operation. She is making good progress and it is expected that she will leave hospital early in the New Year.—Reuter.

Destruction
Of Rubber
In Malaya

Destruction of 2,030 acres of excellent rubber in Malaya was reported at the annual general meeting of the Klang Rubber Company, Limited, on Monday.

The report of the company showed a loss of £631,12, 7, for the year ended December 31, 1947.

Present at the meeting were: Mr. W. A. Welch (Chairman), Messrs. H. Kadoorie, A. E. Fenton (Directors), Mr. C. E. Abbas (representing the Secretaries and General Managers, J. A. Wattie and Company, Limited), and Shareholders representing 31,500 shares.

The Chairman's report follows: "The reported destruction of Bandoor Estate which consisted in 1941 of 2,030 acres of excellent rubber, a large proportion of which had been replanted between 1934 and 1941, is a most serious matter for the Company, no decision can be made in respect of its future.

"You will see from the Director's Report that 234 acres were damaged or destroyed. The rubber remaining is very good, with a high proportion of budgrasses and clonal seedlings. It is intended to plant up the area destroyed as soon as possible, but there is a great dearth of planting material in Java at the moment, and it may be a year before a start can be made.

"In the meantime, investigations are being carried out with a view to planting some catch crop, such as peanuts, on this area, so as to obtain some additional revenue until it is possible to plant rubber. Production is increasing each month, and the estimate for the year 1949 is 600,000 pounds which is most satisfactory, and is more than was ever produced before the war.

"The chances of compensation for war damage or subsequent damage are, I am afraid, rather doubtful. The political situation in Java is still very obscure, and in certain areas the security position has deteriorated. The present deadlock must be resolved, as it means that a large part of a very rich and productive area of Java is out of commission, but the chances of a peaceful settlement do not look too hopeful."

THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

Annual Race Meeting, 1949

Saturday 15th, Monday 17th, Tuesday 18th, Wednesday 19th and Saturday 22nd January.

The First Bell will be rung at 11.30 a.m. and the first race will be run at 12.00 noon, each day. The interval is after the fourth race (1.30 p.m.).

There are 10 races each day (50 in all). The "Hong Kong Derby" is scheduled to be run on the third day, Tuesday, 18th January, Race No. 6 at 3.30 p.m.

MEMBERS' BADGES AND ENCLOSURE

Members are reminded that they and their ladies MUST wear their badges PROMINENTLY DISPLAYED throughout the Meeting.

NO ONE WITHOUT A BADGE WILL BE ADMITTED TO THE MEMBERS' ENCLOSURE.

Badges admitting non-members to the Members' Enclosure and Club Rooms at \$10 per day including tax are obtainable through the Secretary on the written or personal introduction of a Member, such Member, to be responsible for all this etc.

Badges admitting to Members' Enclosure will NOT be on sale at the RACE COURSE.

The Treasurers' Comptroller Office and the Secretary's Office will close at 10 a.m. each day. Both Offices at 1st Floor, Exchange Buildings.

A limited number of tickets will be obtainable at the Club House provided they are ordered in advance from the No. 1 Boy (Tel. 27518).

NO CHILDREN WILL BE ADMITTED TO THE CLUB'S PREMISES DURING THE MEETING.

PUBLIC ENCLOSURE. The price of admission to the Public Enclosure is \$3 each day including tax for all persons including ladies, and is payable at the Gate.

Bookmakers' Ties. Tea men, etc. will not be permitted to operate within the precincts of The Hong-Kong Jockey Club during the Race Meeting.

Refreshments will be obtainable in the Restaurant in the Public Enclosure.

SERVANTS' PASSES. Servants' passes will be issued to Private Box holders ONLY, who are requested to distribute them with discrimination and to endorse their names on the passes. Holders of such passes are not permitted to enter the Members' Enclosure except for passing through on their duties and must remain in their employers' stands.

BY ORDER,
C. D. BROWN,
Secretary.

BESIEGED PEIPING IS
BRAVE BUT UNEASY

Peiping, December 21.

Peiping under siege is a brave but uneasy city. There is no telling when the warfare on its outskirts may surge within the massive walls which now make this historic ground they enclose a refuge for well over 2,000,000 persons.

Everywhere in the city there are military encampments protected by barbed wire or even pointed stakes, a medieval and probably none too effective substitute.

Emplacements have been dug in many alleys and as a consequence they are impassable by car.

Sandbags protect the police stations and other official buildings, both civil and military.

Soldiers keep a constant guard from the city's walls. Embroideries have been chiselled in the picture battlefields for fire to be directed against the Reds if they come within range.

Red Christmas

A 10.00 p.m. curfew and the impossibility of getting, a rickshaw or taxi after that time have curtailed local life. This foreboding is divided into two classes—those unashamedly nervous about the future and those who affect or genuinely feel non-chalant.

The latter refer to the situation with a certain levity, the sort of levity which inspired the parody song entitled "I'm Dreaming of a Red Christmas."

Peiping's sense of isolation has increased since the railway to Tientsin was cut. Telephone service has now also gone. Radio is the city's only contact with the outside world.

The Reds now are in a position to divert a good part of their strength in Manchuria and North China to a reinforced drive toward Nanking and Shanghai.

They have Fu Tso-yi bottled up in Peiping with his supply and escape routes out and can contain his troops with a relatively light force. They can see the long stretches of the Peiping-Hankow and Tientsin-Pukow railroads for transfer of troops South.

Red Currency

Trustworthy reports say they are operating these lines from points less than 40 miles from Peiping on a line to Hankow and from about the same line to Pukow and across the Yangtze from Nanking. Semi-official Nationalist sources say some of Lin Piao's forces

from Manchuria already have passed Peiping on their way South. The Reds are already using their own currency in the Red territory around Peiping. Travellers have brought some banknotes into Peiping as souvenirs. They are crudely printed on crude paper.

Despite the uncertain future ahead for Peiping there have been no further applications by Americans for facilities to leave. Of 789 Americans previously in this district there are now 255 left. Of that number 87 are consular and ECA employees and dependents.

Newmen Trapped

There are also four correspondents who came from Nanking for a day's trip but now seem destined to be here when the Reds arrive. Harold Mills, of the Associated Press, one of the four newsmen, reports that "temporarily marooned" is more descriptive of their position than "trapped". In an emergency they could be flown out at any time from the newly constructed Polo Ground airfield. But the chances one would have to take sailing off that little airstrip are worse than those of capture by the Reds.—Associated Press.

Dead Woman In
Mine Shaft

Wakefield, December 20.

The inquest was opened and adjourned today on the body of a woman recovered from a disused flooded ventilation shaft at Walton Colliery near Wakefield.

It was stated that the body was floating in water 120 feet from the top of the shaft. The shaft was covered with boards which were nailed down and the trap door was also secured fastened with six inch nails.

The body was discovered when an inspection was made by means of a light being lowered down the shaft, and preliminary reports suggest that the body had been in the water from one to five years.—Reuter.

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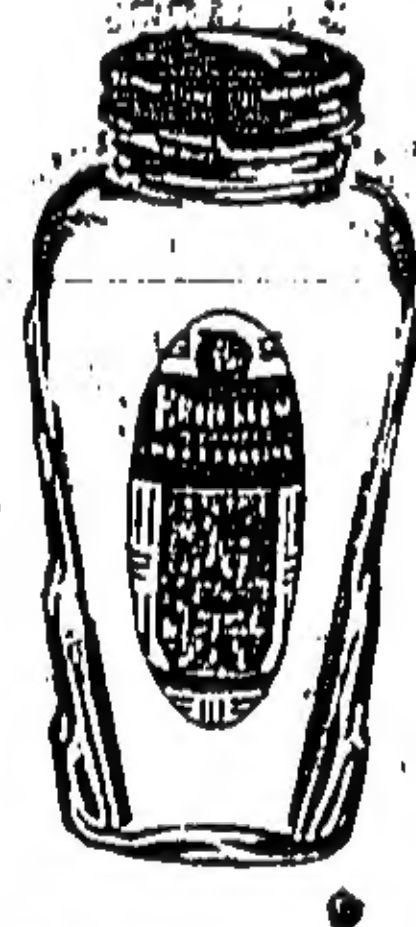
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BRYLCREEM YOUR HAIR

GENERAL CLAY'S HOPES FOR WESTERN GERMANY

Berlin, December 21.

General Lucius D. Clay says he still hopes Western Germany will have a federal government by the middle of 1949.

The American Military Governor is confident that the Governments of the three Western Powers soon will reach agreement on the occupation statute which will serve the Western zones as a substitute peace treaty.

"We were already remarkably close to agreement," Clay said, referring to his Frankfurt conference last week with the French and British Military Governors. Two points, he said, were left to be settled by Washington, London and Paris.

"One point still unresolved," Clay said, "is whether a central government will pay occupation costs, thereby obtaining more financial authority, or whether this will be left to the separate states as the French want. The other point is whether a German will sit in on an Allied board to arbitrate questions arising from the statute. The French do not want that."

"But I think these are issues which can be ironed out without great delay by the three Governments. Perhaps it is only a matter of weeks."

Ahead Of The Russians

General Clay and the British GOC, General Sir Brian Robertson, have set a tentative timetable for West German political development in 1949. According to this, the draft of a constitution is to be completed by the German Assembly at Bonn by New Year's Day. A federal Government is to be established by May 1.

Clay said there was nothing iron-clad about the timetable. "I still hope there won't be a lag of more than a few weeks in the target dates," he added. He minimised the possible political effects if Russia sets up an

Abdullah Names A New Mufti

London, December 20.

King Abdullah of Transjordan announced today that he has appointed a new Mufti of Jerusalem.

The new Mufti will be a rival to Haj Amin El Husseini for 25 years generally accepted leader of the Palestine Arabs.

King Abdullah's declared policy is to unify his country with Arab Palestine.

Haj Amin is the power behind the throne in the so-called Gaza Government of Palestine Arabs which has been recognised by the Arab League States.

King Abdullah named Sheikh Hassan Meddin Jarallah, former Chief Justice of the Muslim religious courts in Palestine, as the new Mufti.

Sheikh Jarallah has been a prominent political opponent of the Mufti for a long time.

Awni Abdul Hadi resigned today as Minister of Social Affairs in the All-Palestine Gaza Government, sending his resignation to King Abdullah by telegraph.

Tattooed Man Mystery

St. Albans, December 20.

Scotland Yard now believe that a tattooed man whose body was found under the walls of a nunnery near St. Albans, may have been involved in a death struggle not far from the scene.

Police inquiries are being concentrated on three or possibly four men who, at 10.30 p.m. on Saturday, were heard arguing noisily.

The strangest feature of the murder which is still puzzling the police is the removal of the victim's coat and trousers.—Reuter.

LONDON BRIBE INQUIRY

SCANDAL WON'T AFFECT LABOUR GOVERNMENT

London, December 20.

The Attorney General, Sir Hartley Shawcross, said here today that it is dangerously short-sighted and superficial to believe the six-weeks' old official inquiry into alleged corruption in public life will have a damaging effect on the present Government.

Sir Hartley was making his closing speech at the Tribunal which has become Britain's most talked of subject.

Declaring that the real danger of such a probe was that it might tend to undermine public confidence, not in a particular politician, but in a form of government, he said the public were entitled to be reassured that never before had any Government been more determined to vindicate and maintain the highest traditions of public life.

Later, Sir Hartley indicated that because of inquiry Parliament might consider tightening the laws on bankruptcy, changing of names, and the exchange of gifts in connection with business transactions.

Sir Hartley submitted that there had not been a shred of evidence suggesting corruption by civil servants involved in the investigations. He wished he could say the same for each of the Ministers and public men involved.

One danger of the inquiry, he warned, was that it might tend to exacerbate racial animosities. One of the central figures in the case had been a Jew named Sidney Stanley. It followed that many of those with whom he associated were members of the Jewish community. Possibly some were not of particularly good repute, but Jews in general formed a valued part of Britain's political community.

Tangled Web

Stanley, he said, remained the central figure around which the whole tangled web had been spun. He would not claim they had succeeded entirely in unweaving it. Some matters remained very obscure.

The Tribunal might come to the conclusion that Stanley was a rascal. But he had other qualities—considerable ability, personality and quick wit. Very likely he had considerable and real qualities of kindness and generosity.

Sir Hartley said he was compelled to suggest that Stanley had pursued a fraudulent life. "His mendacity and exhibitionism, the Tribunal may think, were almost pathological. The greater the rascal you conclude him to be the more likely it is that, given the opportunity, he

Heart In Politics

Counsel for Sir Belcher said he had no reason to believe that Stanley was a man of whose friendship he ought to be ashamed.

If the astute politician, Mr. Hugh Dalton (former Chancellor of the Exchequer) and the astute trade unionist, Mr. George Githen, had been taken in by Stanley's urbanity and vanity, was it to be supposed that a young Minister of 43 was negligent in this respect?

Counsel said he would dismiss as gossip and rumour the testimony that Belcher had said he was looking for a job as the Government would not always be in power.

There had been no question of Isaac Wolfson, millionaire chief of the Great Universal Stores, offering Belcher a directorship or of Belcher accepting one. "Mr. Belcher's heart is in politics, and it is his great desire to remain in politics," his counsel said.

Three Foolish Things

He said Belcher had been undoubtedly foolish in three things.

1. To accept gifts from people who had official dealings with the Board of Trade.

2. Not going at once to the President of the Board of Trade or the Prime Minister when he heard of the allegation being made against him.

3. Writing a letter to the Lords Chancellor, Britain's highest legal authority, which

Christmas Boom For London

London, December 20. Christmas has brought the year's biggest boom to the Port of London. For the first time for years no dockers or stevedores who report for work is being turned away.

Thousands of dockers are working overtime tonight and every night of the week.—Reuter

did not fully or accurately set out the whole matter. Counsel ended his 90-minute speech by saying: "I invite this Tribunal to find that the boast of this country as to honest administration may still be the boast of this country notwithstanding the indiscretions of Belcher."

"Red Herrings" Counsel for Isaac Wolfson said there had been nothing improper in politicians visiting his client's office. Wolfson had been visited by hundreds of people interested in the art of running an enormous business such as the Great Universal Stores.

He declared he saw no reason for production to the Tribunal of three receipts concerning £1,000 paid to Stanley. They were three red herrings.

Chairman: "Three red herrings designed to conceal the true arrangement between Mr. Wolfson and Stanley." Counsel submitted the three receipts were due to some arrangement between persuasive Stanley and the firm's secretary. There was no evidence to suggest that Mr. Wolfson had given gifts or asked favours of anyone.

The Tribunal adjourned until tomorrow with the Attorney General's speech still unfinished.—Reuter.

"I couldn't

concentrate on

anything."



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FIRST CASE OF ITS KIND

Ellisville, December 21.

A 23-year-old Navy veteran was under conviction today for miscegenation, and the District Attorney, Paul Swartzfager, said he believed it was the first time in Mississippi's history.

The miscegenation law, which stems from the State Constitution of 1890, forbids marriage or cohabitation between white persons and those with one eighth or more Negro or Mongolian blood.

Davis Knight, who served in the Navy as a white man and married a white girl, was convicted under the law and sentenced to five years in the State Penitentiary. He has filed notice of appeal.—Associated Press.

BLANKET OF SNOW FOR NEW YORK

New York, December 20.

At least 17 died in the great snow storm which struck New York and the New England States during the week-end.

Five died in New York City, five in New Jersey and seven in New England. Six other deaths were reported from other parts of the country.

The 19½-inch snow blanket which covered New York—the third heaviest in the city's history failed to halt its bustling life but the city's two great airports remained snowbound.

Idlewild airport was later reopened to traffic, but La Guardia remained snowbound. City-workers from outlying areas were held up but they nearly all got to work.

It will take days to clear up all the side streets and New York seems destined to have a white Christmas and possibly a white New Year.—Reuter.

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INDIES CRISIS

PRESSURE ON U.S. TO SUPPORT INDONESIA AMERICANS ASKED TO CUT ERP AID

Washington, December 20.

Strong diplomatic pressure was brought to bear on the United States today to condemn the Dutch "police action" in Indonesia and to support the Indonesian Republicans.

The Australian, Indian and Republican representatives hastily arranged interviews with Mr. Robert Lovett, the acting Secretary of State, throughout the day.

The Australian and Indian Ambassadors are known to be sympathetic to the Republic whose representative, Dr. Soemito, stated bluntly that he had appealed for American political and economic support and asked the United States to cut off Marshall aid to The Netherlands.

The threat to cut Marshall aid was not taken seriously by Netherlands Embassy officials here. They said that Dr. Alan Valentine, chief of the United States Marshall aid mission in the Netherlands, had recently passed on assurances from the Netherlands Government that no Marshall Plan commodities had been used to supply arms, ammunition or other military equipment to the Dutch forces in Indonesia.

Whether any action is taken, the events in Indonesia are certain to result in an interruption and possible revision of authorisations to the Netherlands East Indies, already issued by the Economic Co-operation Administration, for various types of goods.

Netherlands Embassy officials also claimed that the first reactions in the American press to the Dutch action had been more sympathetic than on earlier occasions when the Indonesian question was the subject of widespread editorial comment.

The fact that Mr. Lovett saw the Indonesian representative at all was considered to be a gesture of sympathy for the Republicans because Dr. Soemito has been in Washington for some time without having an official interview with him.

Fight To Continue

State Department spokesmen themselves declined to comment on the Indonesian situation, pointing out that the American attitude would be presented to the Security Council on Wednesday.

Dr. Soemito told reporters he had informed Mr. Lovett that the Indonesian Government will continue strong resistance to the Dutch even though its top leaders have been captured and are being held by the Dutch.

The Government will function from Boekittinggi, on the island of Sumatra, he said. "If that is captured, the Government will move elsewhere. As long as we have territory under our control, we will have our Government there. As a last resort we will set up a Government in exile."

Dr. Soemito is Minister of Foreign Trade and Financial Affairs of the Indonesian Republic. He is also head of the Republican delegation to the UN Security Council.

Guerilla War

Dr. Soemito told reporters he has been in touch with the Indonesian Government.

"We are prepared to carry on protracted guerilla warfare," he said. "Very soon you will see a series of counter-attacks on the Dutch from the mountains. I know our captured leaders will never give up the fight."

Sternist Leader's Denial

Acre, December 20.

Nathan Friedman Yellin, alleged chief of the Stern Gang, solemnly swore at his trial at Acre today that he played no part in the assassination of the United Nations Palestine Mediator, Count Folke Bernadotte.

With upraised hands, he said, "Under oath I declare I never took part in the decision to kill Bernadotte."

Asked by the prosecution for his opinion of Count Bernadotte, Yellin said: "I am more sorry for each child killed in Jerusalem owing to Bernadotte who starved the city and caused its shelling."

He admitted that the group to which he had belonged had a secret tribunal to pass death sentences on "traitors."

The prosecutor, referring to a pamphlet stated to have been issued by the Stern Gang, said to Yellin: "You wrote 'Bernadotte executed.'"

"It was a slip of the tongue," Yellin replied.—Reuter.

on the Netherlands' participation in the ECA.

"Independence in Asia and colonial areas is the hallmark of the future. Those who run counter to the tide must take their own chances as to the effects. We can only hope that the Dutch will proceed in this spirit."

The resumption of hostilities, he continued, is very unfortunate and may have the most serious repercussions on European recovery on the basis of the Marshall Plan with which the stability of the East Indies is so intimately tied.—Reuter, Associated Press and United Press.

Fateful Events

The envoy said the Dutch attack apparently came as a complete surprise to the State Department as well as to the Jogyakarta regime.

Dr. Soemito said: "We are witnessing only the beginning of a whole chain of fateful events. Now I know how you Americans felt after Pearl Harbor."

In New York, United States Congressman Jacob K. Javits warned that the Dutch attack may have serious repercussions

Anti-Dutch Mood In Philippines

Manila, December 21.

Indignation mounted in the Philippines today on the Dutch police action in Indonesia.

The action stirred more anti-Dutch feeling here than has been seen at any time in the past two years.

President Elpidio Quirino ordered a memorandum to be prepared on the background of the Indonesian issue before issuing a statement on Government policy.

University students began a move to boycott Dutch citizens and officials in the Philippines and fixed demonstrations at all universities and schools.

The Manila press fumed. "The outspoken Filipino-owned Chronicle said: 'All Asia and the free world should be aroused to action by this perfidy and insolence of the Dutch in Indonesia.'"

"A fifth rate power, whose own existence depends upon the sacredness of international agreements, the Netherlands has undertaken brazenly and shamelessly a war of aggression against a people who happen to be even weaker materially."

The American-owned Manila Bulletin said, "Millions of people in Asia, millions in Europe and more millions in North and South America will fail to see

Australian Dockers May Reimpose Ban

Sydney, December 20.

The Executive Committee of the Dock Workers Union, the Waterside Workers Federation, is to meet tomorrow to consider reimposing their ban on working Dutch ships in view of the developments in Indonesia.

The Abbecker, at present, the only Dutch ship in Sydney Harbour, got wharf labour today without difficulty.

Australian dock workers and seamen refused to handle Dutch shipping when fighting first developed between the Dutch and Indonesians in 1945.

A conference of Australian trade unions on August 5, 1947, completely banned the movement of all Dutch goods in Australia pending a decision of the United Nations. The ban was not lifted until last June.—Reuter.

"Indonesia Now A Sovereign State"

Washington, December 20.

A spokesman for the Indonesian Republic today said his Government now considers itself a sovereign state and will act accordingly.

Dr. Soemito, ranking Indonesian representative in the United States, told the United Press: "By their own action the Dutch have formally abrogated the Renville Agreement."

"Therefore, we consider ourselves an independent and sovereign state and will carry on in that status to the best of our abilities."

"The Dutch action dangerously impairs the interest not only of Indonesia but all South East Asia and will have serious repercussions for Western Europe and the United States of America."

"This action is the culmination of Dutch bad faith throughout the entire negotiations for settlement of the dispute. We charge the Dutch with sabotaging the efforts of the Good Offices Committee and the United States State Department, who have valiantly attempted to bring about peaceful settlement of the Dutch-Indonesian dispute."

"The Republic of Indonesia has always been ready to accept, and has in fact accepted formally, all suggestions made by the Good Offices Committee of the United Nations."

"The Dutch, on the other hand, by procrastination, delay and bad faith, have constantly blocked efforts of the Good Offices Committee. We appeal to the United States Government to cut off ECA funds to the Dutch. This money is now being diverted by the Dutch for military purposes in Indonesia at the rate of US\$1,000,000 daily."

The Dutch have officially denied using ECA funds for military purposes in Indonesia.

Flat Denial

The Indonesian representative flatly denied formal Dutch charges that the Republican Government had been unable to enforce its will in its own areas.

"We reply that the Dutch could not restore law and order in areas occupied by them since July 1947, such as West Java," he said.

He also denied Dutch charges of Republican infiltration into



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BELEAGUERED NANKING

Armoured columns, mounted troops, heavily-burdened soldiery and the clatter of gun carriages are commonplace in Nanking today, as Communist forces move closer to the capital. All is quiet as these troops on wiry ponies patrol the icy streets, but they are likely to have sterner duties soon. (All photos shown are from Associated Press.)



Chinese Air Force pilots flying bombing missions from Nanking relax in their headquarters.

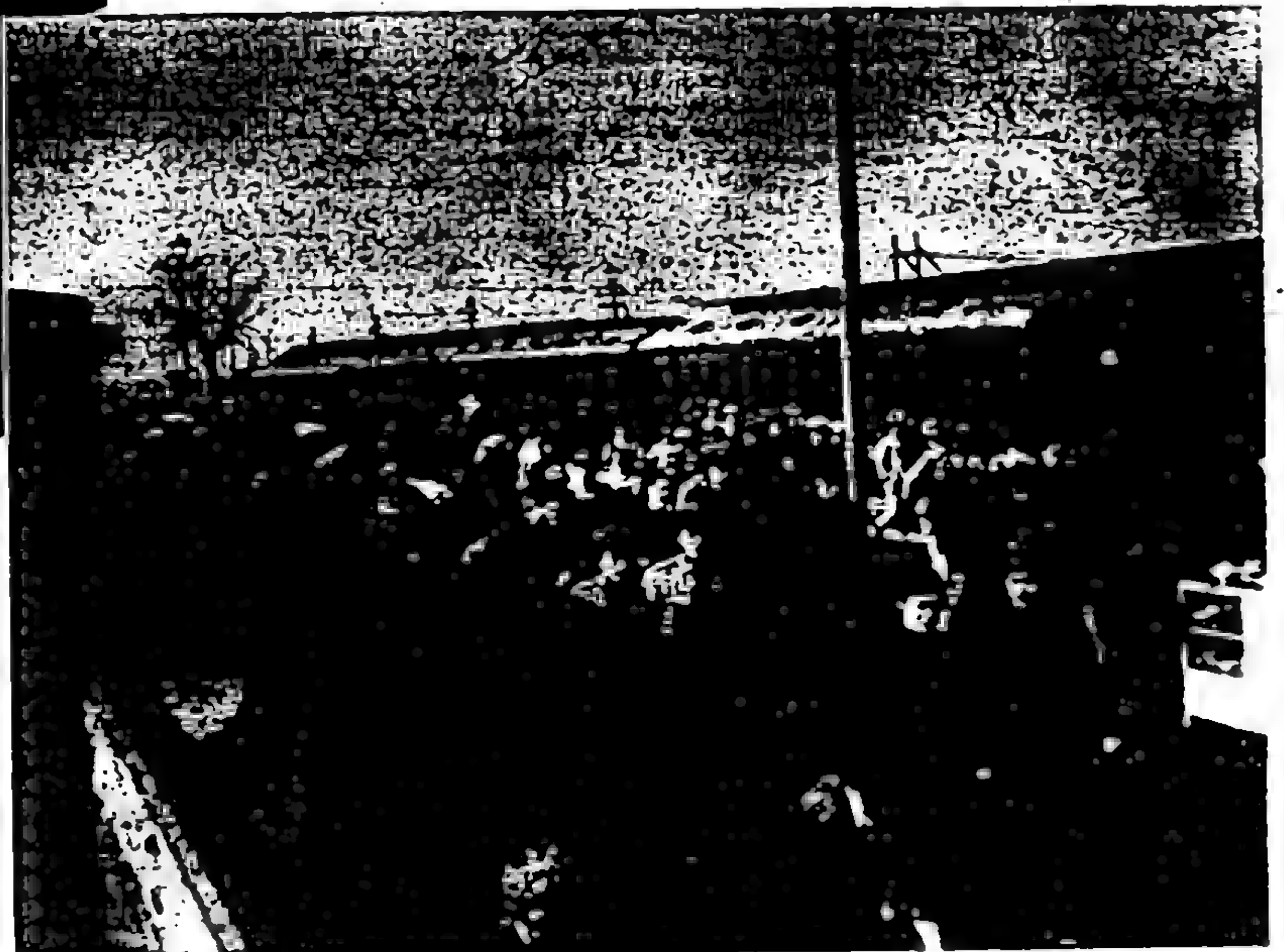


Nationalist soldiers leave Pukow railway station on their way North to reinforce Government troops facing the Communist armies.



Forgetting the grim struggle, the rough roads frozen by biting winds, the poor food and the hopelessness of the battle areas, this Nationalist soldier on his way to the North plays happily with a baby in Pukow.

As troops entrain for the battle zone, refugees en route to the South stream in constant procession towards the relative safety of Nanking, from where they will move further as soon as transport is available.





Having a happy time at a private party at the Hong Kong Hotel on December 15 was the family of Mr. G. E. Marden of Wheelock, Marden & Co.



Mr. and Mrs. Hans Blocklin after their wedding at St. John's Cathedral on December 15.



At the wedding of Miss Wong Wing-kwan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wong Tse-shan, to Mr. Chan Pui-chun, son of Mr. and Mrs. Chan Yee-ting. The ceremony was conducted by Mr. T. W. Kwok, Commissioner for Chinese Affairs, at the Hong Kong Hotel. Bride and groom were educated at the Ling Nam University, Canton.

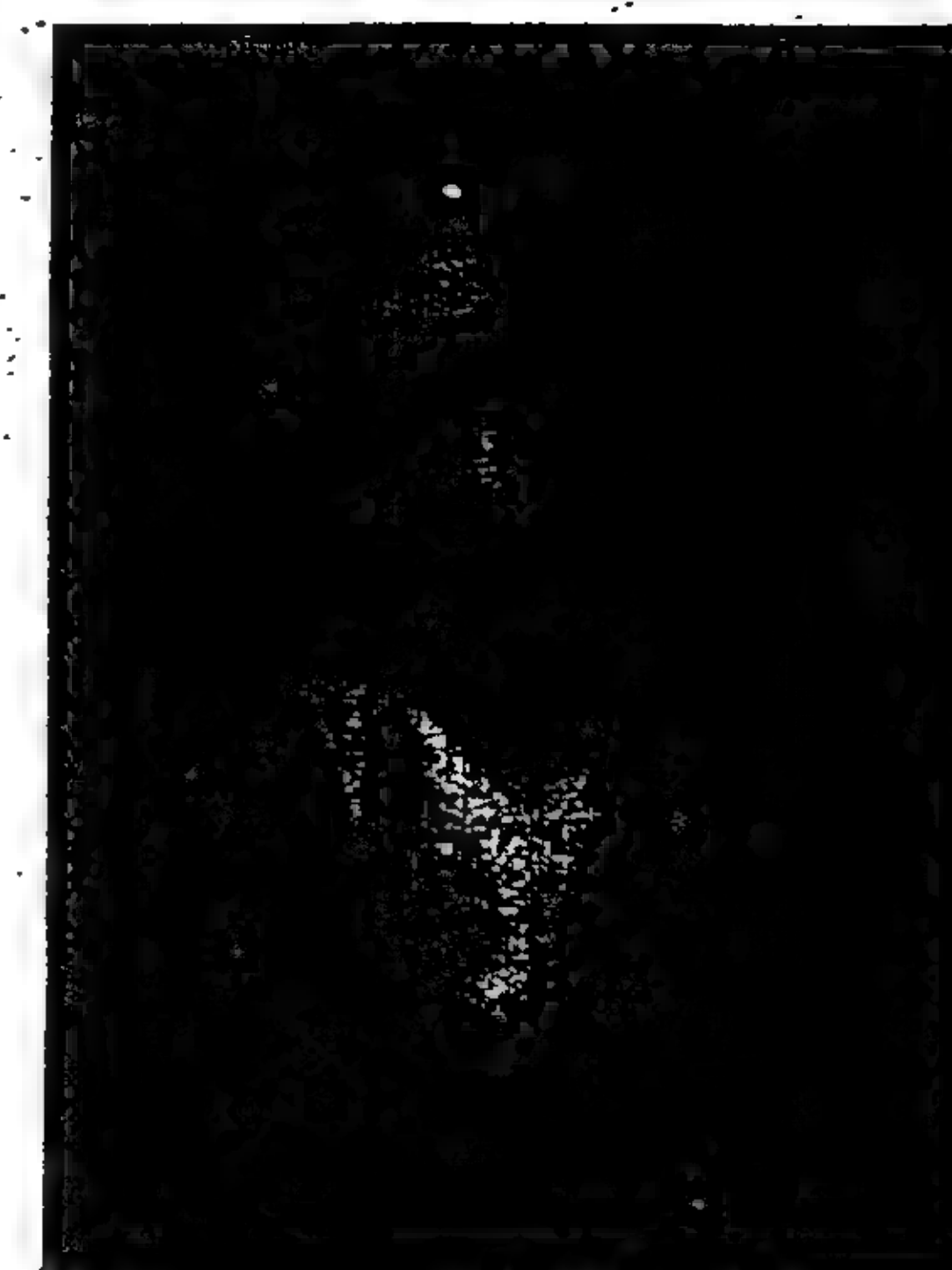


Flight Lieutenant J. Cant holds his son, Andrew Fraser, after his christening at St. Andrew's. Others are, left to right, Flight Lieutenant J. Fennel, Mrs. R. Lewis, Mrs. Cant, Squadron Leader R. Lewis, and Squadron Leader the Rev. R. C. H. Swain.

Bride and groom smile happily after the wedding of Miss Mabel Dorothy Howard and Mr. D. M. Xavier.

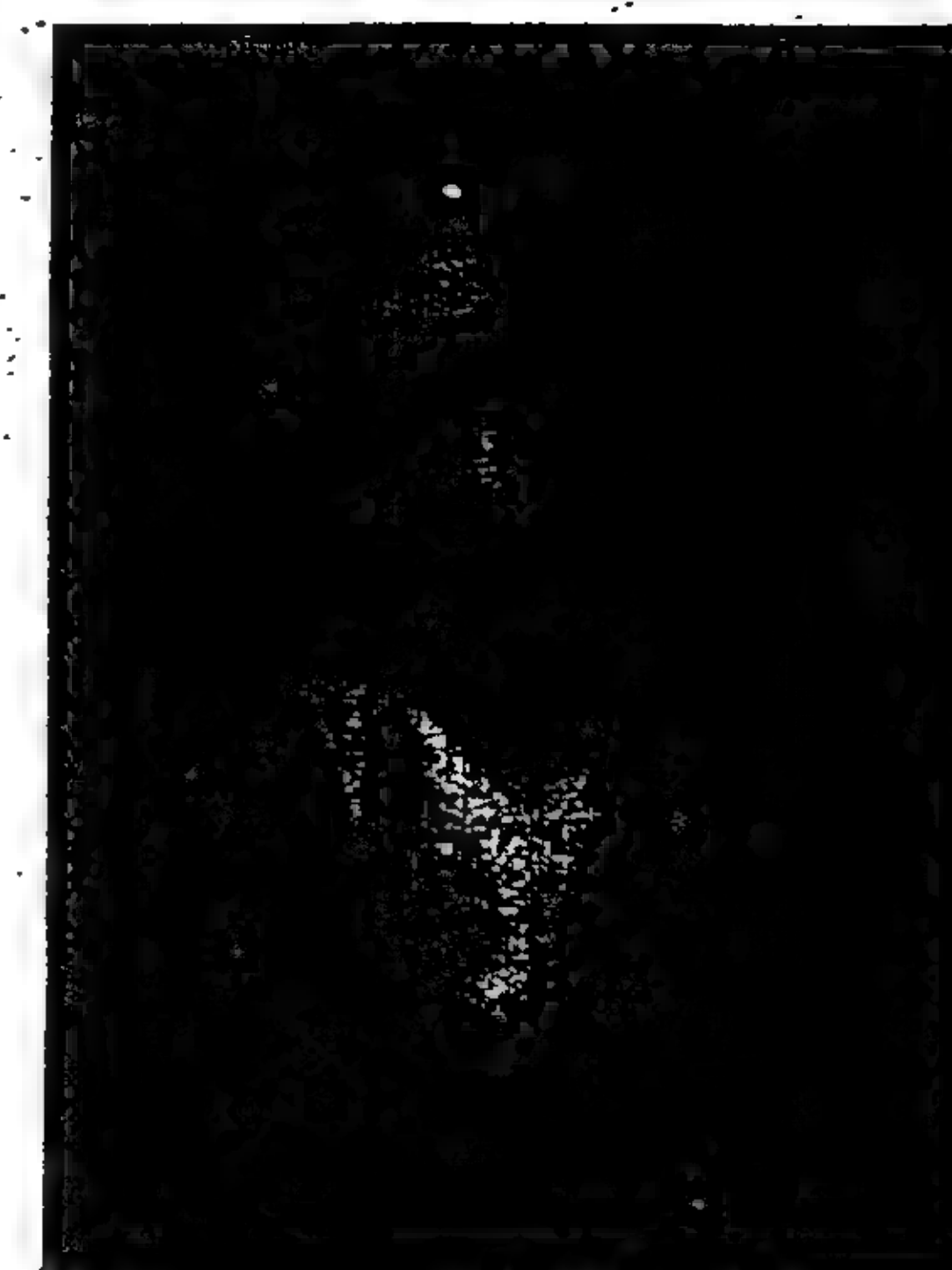


MORE BABY
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MORE BABY
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ENTRANTS



FOUR-YEAR RECOVERY PLAN

Huge British Credit Balance By 1952

Gigantic Surge In East Asia

New York, December 20. "Asia wants to rise out of its destitution, want and illiteracy," the Reverend Dr. Frank C. Laubach, missionary educator, said yesterday.

In a sermon at the St. Bartholomew's Protestant Episcopal Church, the Reverend Laubach said: "The peoples want recognition as equals. If we do not help them up they will blow up. They hear one voice urging revolution and another speaking for Christ. Word has spread among these people that they do not need to remain ignorant and destitute. There is today a genuine surge toward education among them."

"The entire human race will be literate by the end of the century. We cannot allow three-fourths of the world to be uneducated and remain savages in their hearts."

Dr. Laubach leaves next week to continue his work in Siam, India, New Guinea and Korea.—United Press.

Corrupt Art In The West

Sofia, December 21. The Bulgarian Communists plan to ban "perverse and corrupt film products of decaying Western art."

They also aim at indoctrinating journalists by improving the Marxist and Leninist education of journalists, in order finally to transform the press into a reliable daily source of general information and education in the spirit of the Communist party.

These proposals are contained in resolutions submitted to the Bulgarian Communist Party's fifth congress now meeting in Sofia. Representatives from 18 countries are attending the meeting.

The first resolution to be considered is one urging the building up of Socialism within the country by a series of five-year plans. This, the proposal acknowledges, will be a hard task.—Associated Press.

"FINE LESSON" OF BRITAIN

Paris, December 21. "France is in the full course of material and spiritual recovery," M. Robert Schuman, the Foreign Minister, declared today.

"Frenchmen should follow the example of the British, who give us a fine lesson of courage and civic virtue," M. Schuman told an audience at Strasbourg, Lorraine.

Germany, although defeated, was not attempting to renounce democratic freedom, he added. "Let us remember that an excess of criticism kills authority, and selfishness destroys the State."

U.S. GENERAL IN TURKEY

London, December 21. Radio Ankara reports that the head of the American military mission to Greece, Major General James Van Fleet, has arrived in Istanbul accompanied by five officers of his staff.

He is to meet there the American Secretary of Defense, Mr. Kenneth Royall, who is touring Europe to get first hand knowledge of American occupation activities.—Reuter.

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Four More Years Of Austerity

London, December 20.

Britain will probably do without 25 per cent of her Marshall aid next year, but will still face the world with a £100 million credit balance in 1952-53.

This is the overall meaning of the Government's four-year recovery plan under Marshall Aid published today.

The three main points of the plan are:

- 1.—An increase in exports of at least 50 per cent above 1938 and 10 per cent above 1948.
- 2.—Capital investment, for industrial and agricultural development, at the rate of £2,000 million a year.
- 3.—A 15 to 20 per cent increase in the supply of manufactured goods to the home consumer, with a speed-up of home food production to replace imports.

The only definite forecast in the 65-page programme is that in the 12 months starting next July, Britain reckons to average with \$940 million of Marshall aid compared with \$1,203 million this year.

The plan assumes that Britain, working under conditions of rigorous austerity, will close her menacing imports-exports gap, now running at the yearly rate of \$1,128 million, by the end of Marshall aid in 1952.

Must Be Done

Details have already leaked from Paris and the only undisclosed feature is that the programme is not a hard forecast on what Britain intends to do.

It is a recital of what she must do and the means of doing it.

A vast industrial programme at home will speed the export drive. It is planned to raise the coal output by nearly a quarter, electricity generating capacity by nearly a half, the output of steel by nearly 40 per cent.

Still further expansion is also planned for the engineering industries, whose output is already nearly 50 per cent over pre-war figures.

Agricultural production will be pushed up to an all-time record of 50 per cent above pre-war and Britain in 1952-53 will be importing even less food than now.

Britain's balance of payments in 1952-53 should show a surplus of \$891 million with the Western Hemisphere—an overall surplus of \$400 million with the world as a whole.

Decisive Year

Next year is named as the decisive year of the whole programme in the detailed programme for 1949-50, which also contains the "four-year plan."

The report states: "By the end of that year, if all goes well, it will be possible to see clearly the way ahead."

The British Government will finance various colonial development projects. These will be reflected in increased exports of food and raw materials vital to European recovery.

Increases are projected to the production of groundnuts, sugar, rubber, tin, copper, cobalt, bauxite and lead. Rubber and copper production will be doubled, and the output of bauxite, for aluminium, will be 12 times greater than in 1938.

The production of sugar will be increased by two-fifths.

The crude oil production of British companies should be double the 1947 figure by the end of Marshall aid.

Essential Factor

The success of the programme will depend upon full co-operation with the other countries in Western Europe and the Commonwealth. It is emphasised.

"An increase in the exchange of goods between these countries is

Mystery Man Was Not A Millionaire

London, December 20.

F. A. Sarwan, financier and banker who was generally reputed to be worth millions, left £71,490. Mr. Sarwan who was known as one of the mystery men of finance, was chairman of the Amalgamated Anthracite Collieries, Limited, before its nationalisation.

He was also chairman of the Covent Garden Opera syndicate from 1930 to 1933 and established the former General Theatres Corporation.—Reuter.

Kingdom dollar deficit to manageable dimensions." But Britain's surplus with the continental countries, though small, will be enlarged by the additional surplus of the rest of the sterling area with them.

A Deficit

This is described by the programme as one of the difficult problems which may call for mutual adjustments in the economies of the United Kingdom and the other participating countries.

Although imports from the Western Hemisphere are assumed to be cut by about 20 per cent and exports there increased by 55 per cent, Britain will still have a deficit of \$201 million with the Hemisphere in the year starting July, 1952.

She also expects a deficit equal to \$174 million with Russia, Eastern Europe, the Middle East and certain other countries.

Britain reckons to outweigh these and earn a world surplus equal to \$400 million from the following sources: a surplus equal to \$816 million with the sterling area and a surplus equal to \$40 million with the continental ERP countries.

Sir Stafford Cripps, Chancellor of the Exchequer, who is also overall controller of British economy, declared at a press conference that Britain's four-year recovery programme under Marshall aid is based on the following assumptions:

1.—A continued high level of activity throughout the world, especially in the Western Hemisphere.

2.—A reasonable flow of East-West trade within Europe.

3.—Substantial progress in European co-operation based on stable monetary conditions in Europe.

4.—Reasonable freedom of movement among themselves of Western European currencies.

5.—Political conditions in Western Europe requiring no substantial increase in armaments above present levels.—Reuter.

East-West Trade

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Imports have been put some 10 per cent above 1948-49. Tourist expenditure by United Kingdom citizens is allowed for at a rate about one-third above 1947.

The document goes on: "In framing the import programme, increased supplies of essential products from the other participating countries have been assumed."

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CHINA CRISIS

THE BIG QUESTION IS STILL UNANSWERED

Nanking, December 20.

Dr. Sun Fo's surprise announcement tonight of the formation of his Cabinet came 36 hours after he had informed Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek that he was unable to accept nomination as Premier because he had failed in the task of choosing a Ministry.

The overnight change in the situation was believed to have followed pressure by the Generalissimo on Dr. Sun Fo again to attempt the task.

It was understood that the Generalissimo also used his influence to persuade prominent members of the Kuomintang to participate in Dr. Sun Fo's new Cabinet.

In all events, tonight's announcement followed a day of numerous conferences and discussions. The significant phrases used by Dr. Sun Fo tonight, rather than past policies, some of his Ministers believed, indicate the course which the new Cabinet may pursue.

Dr. Sun Fo has announced a restricted list drawn from both the conservative and liberal groups within the Kuomintang and representative of those who in the past have been opposed to or prepared to accept some form of a Coalition.

Question Mark

But the language of the statement given the press at his home tonight suggested that the Pre-

mier was already prepared to consider some form of compromise.

This apparent course still does not indicate where President Chiang Kai-shek will stand in this policy of appeasement or negotiation.

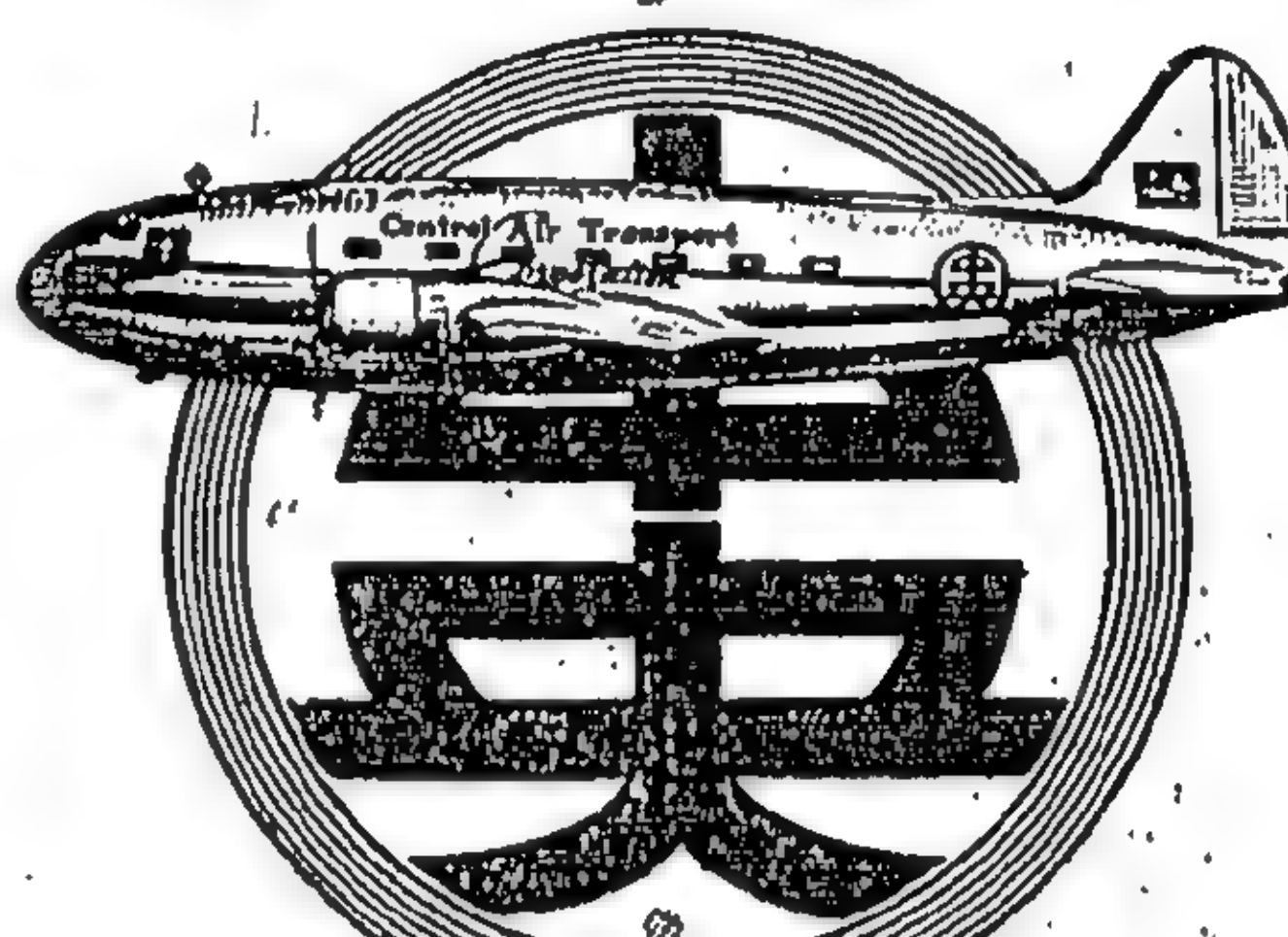
The Generalissimo has repeatedly stated his determination never to work with the Communists. So Dr. Sun Fo's significant language still leaves the big question unanswered.

If some approach to peace by compromise or negotiation is made, the question still remains as where the Generalissimo will stand. And the Communists have made it clear that they will not negotiate with President Chiang Kai-shek.—Reuter-AAP.

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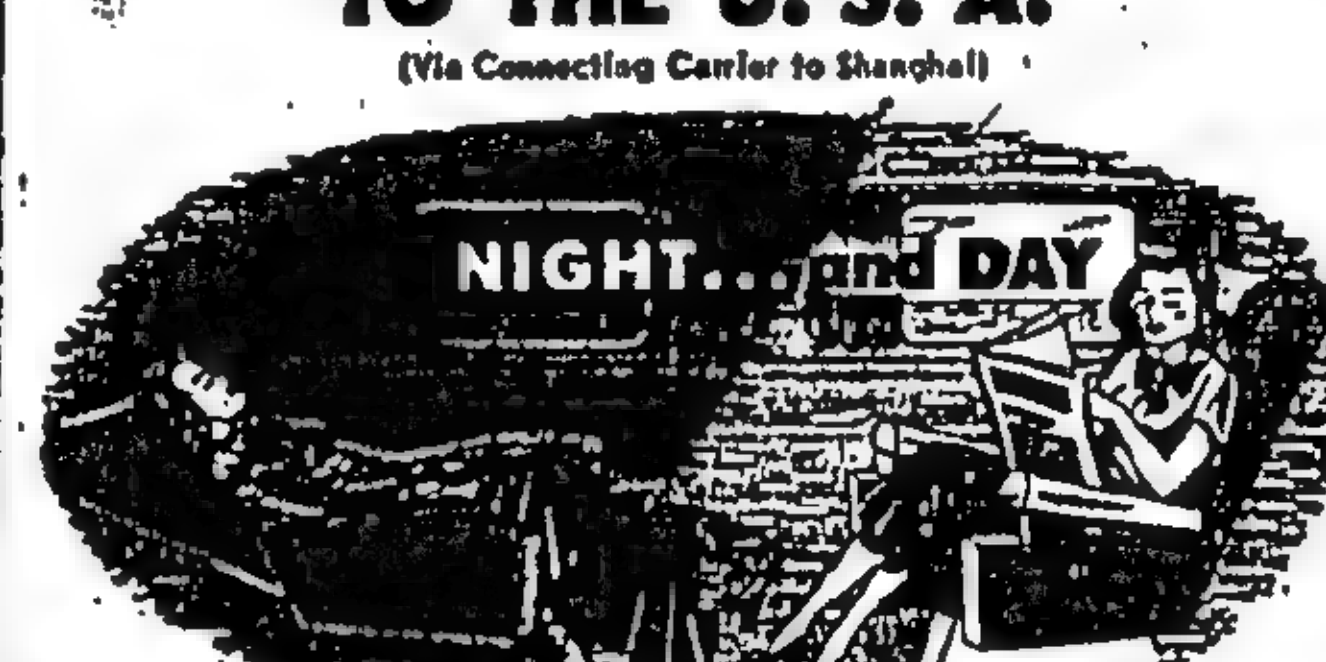
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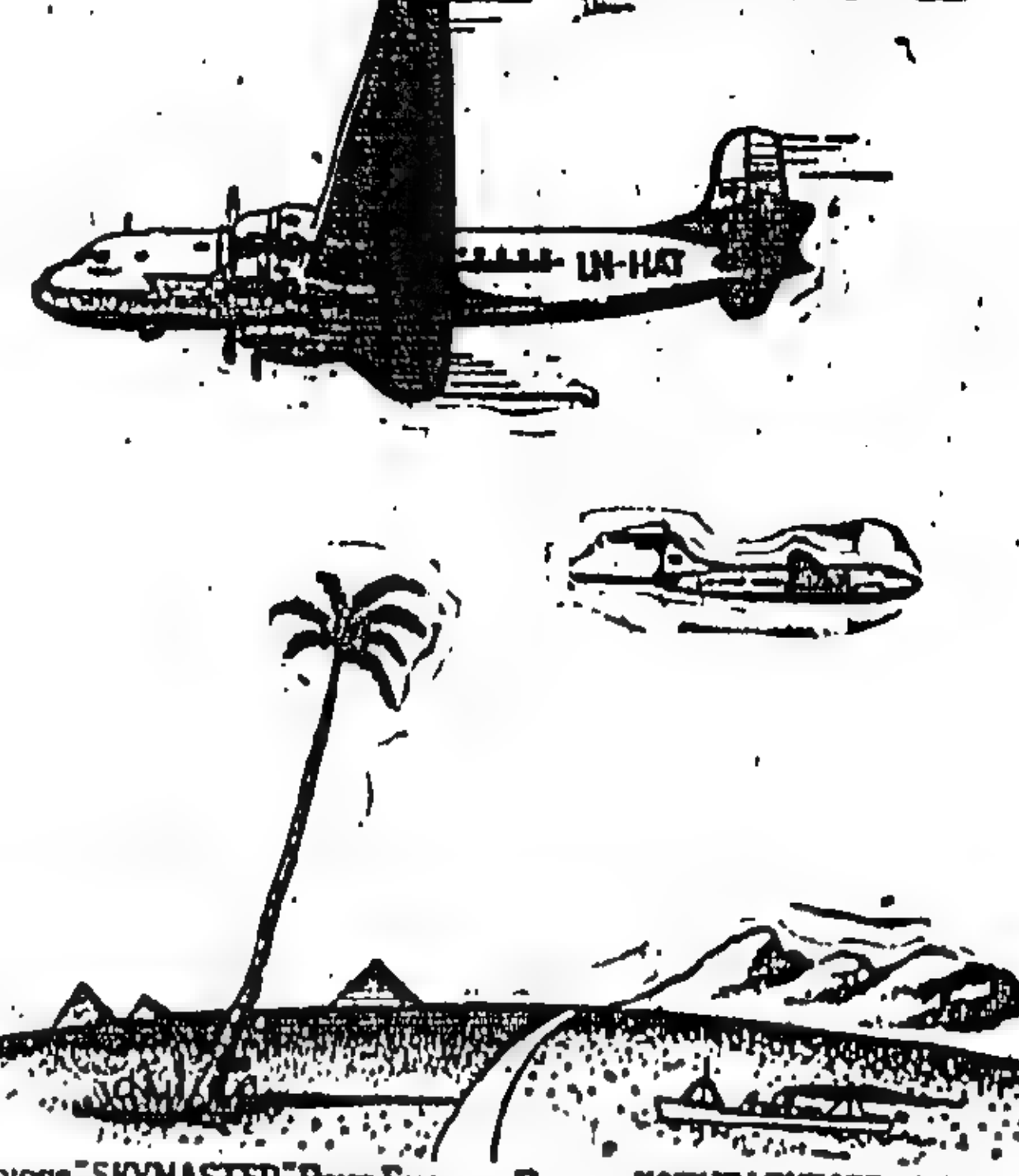
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Woman Today

UTILITY COSTUMES ARE SMART



This Rensor utility wool suit combines straight brown skirt with fly-away jacket in brown and white check.

Another utility model is this attractive two-piece, a Saldor dress with matching jacket, in royal blue. Snug jacket has buttons down front, pinched in waist, long sleeves and scalloped pelum.

A Windmoor utility teal-green coat with red-fer lines and smart high collar of brown velvet.

Reports that midwintert, those stylish needwomans of Paris, consider British "utility" suits among the season's best buys, suggest how these up-to-the-minute clothes have developed in style and quality since the first wartime austerity models were introduced in 1942.

"CC41"—the utility mark on British clothes—is the widest known official trade-mark ever introduced into British fashion stores. It has become also a mark of quality in so far as it is a Board of Trade guarantee that the garment reaches standards laid down by them as fair value for money paid.

Wanted For Export, Too
Permission was given for export of this clothing in May, 1948, in response to requests from overseas buyers.

During the war "utility" tended to be for the civilian what "uniform" was for the servicewoman. Shrinkage of materials and rigid control of the amount used in each garment made variety in design impossible. The number of buttons and pockets, trimmings, even turn-ups on trousers, was regulated.

With raising of the ceiling price for utility clothes, and relaxation of the style regulations, makers now have latitude to follow current trends.

When "CC41" garments bear the name of a reputable firm, one can be fairly certain their quality will be in accordance with the firm's general standard. Moreover, the customer pays no purchase tax when buying "utility." The tax on most other clothing is 33 1/3 per cent on the wholesale price. With the general relaxation of the style regulations, makers now have latitude to follow current trends.

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LONDON FASHION HINT

By Joan White

It was kind of London's leading couturiers to include in their recent collections some ideas which can be used by a keen needswoman to bring last season's clothes right up to this minute. If you take their hint and use contrasting materials as they do on your ageing but favourite dress, you'll be right up to date.

The corset waist, as shown by Norman Hartnell, Matelli, Worth and Rahvis, is a godsend if you want to give your dress a fresh start in life. Imagine your black crepe with a wide band of velvet inset from the ribs to about three inches below the waist, clipped in lightly at your natural waist line with a narrow gold kid belt, and if you like, bands of the velvet let into the skirt as well.

Michael Sherard, one of London's younger designers who keeps his "hair" for drama and colour firmly leashed in by the demands of practicality, showed a day dress which I fell in love with at sight. It was in very fine dark green wool, the skirt straight and slim, the bodice in tartan silk. Over this was a short bolero jacket in the green wool. And as I watched it walking up and down his salon I realised that here was a dress with all the virtues and, moreover, that one could easily adapt an established favourite on these lines.

Popular Boleros

Boleros of all kinds are popular this autumn, perhaps because they help to emphasise our new small waists. So if your dress is too tight, or worn, you could hardly find a better way of freshening it up than this. Decide first whether you are going to produce a bolero effect in the front only, or whether your silk top is going to be a complete bodice, with a separate bolero over it.

If the former, unpick the stitching joining bodice to skirt. Slit the bodice up the centre front and take off any collar or neck trimming because you will want a narrow upstanding military collar of the tartan to show above the wool. Cut a slice off the bottom of the bodice, turn back the raw edges and face with bias binding.

Now for the new tartan blouse. Cut out the front from a well-tested and perfectly plain blouse pattern, seam it in to the shoulders, armhole, sides and waist. Finish the neck with the narrow band of tartan and a small bow, or the bow would look well in narrow black velvet ribbon. One obvious advantage of this method is that you need not disturb the set of the sleeves.

However, if your dress is tight across the back as well as the front there is nothing for it but to take off the whole top and replace it with the tartan. Now cut a band, say four inches deep, from the bottom of the discarded bodice. With this you can make an inverted plait down the middle of the back. Finish off the edges with bias binding, press well and wear your new London model right through the day with confidence.

Wardrobe Helps

With the ceiling price of utility suits round about £6 women were often faced with having to pay almost as much for a hat, since these were not rationed, as they paid for a suit. To meet this situation, Selfridge's has opened what they call their medium-priced hat salon where one may snatch up a utility suit with a new season's beret or cloche for sums between one and two pounds.

Ann Temple

SELFISH DAUGHTERS

I have two daughters, one 19 and the other 17, both very much grown up. They earn good money, but contribute nothing towards their keep. My wife sees nothing wrong with this and encourages their selfishness by further spoiling.

I have long given up protesting against my friends being continually entertained in the house and staying often after midnight. But I am thinking of saying I will pay the rent and nothing more. Would this bring them all to their senses?—S.W.

You certainly have a problem, but what can you expect if the girls have been brought up to think of Dad as the "universal provider"?

And they been trained in the idea of family responsibility, family sharing, family contributing, you would have something to appeal to in them. They would take it in their stride that as earners they became responsible members of the family group and as contributors have a say in the family budget.

An old rancher once told me, beaming with pride in his sons and daughters, that he and his wife had brought them up on the principle "No work—no eat." It may not be too late for you to try "No pay—no eat" with your little bunch. Good luck to you!

In my efforts to improve myself as a conversationalist I have become a worse one. Searching for topics, I have read books, listened to all manner of talks, lectures, and everywhere for new ideas, only to become so conscious of what I am saying that I stick and dry up.

Can you suggest the best way to make one's conversation interesting whatever the subject?—A.W.B.

Better forget about being a good talker yourself and concentrate on making yourself an interesting person to be talked to. Rules of conversation are dangerous.

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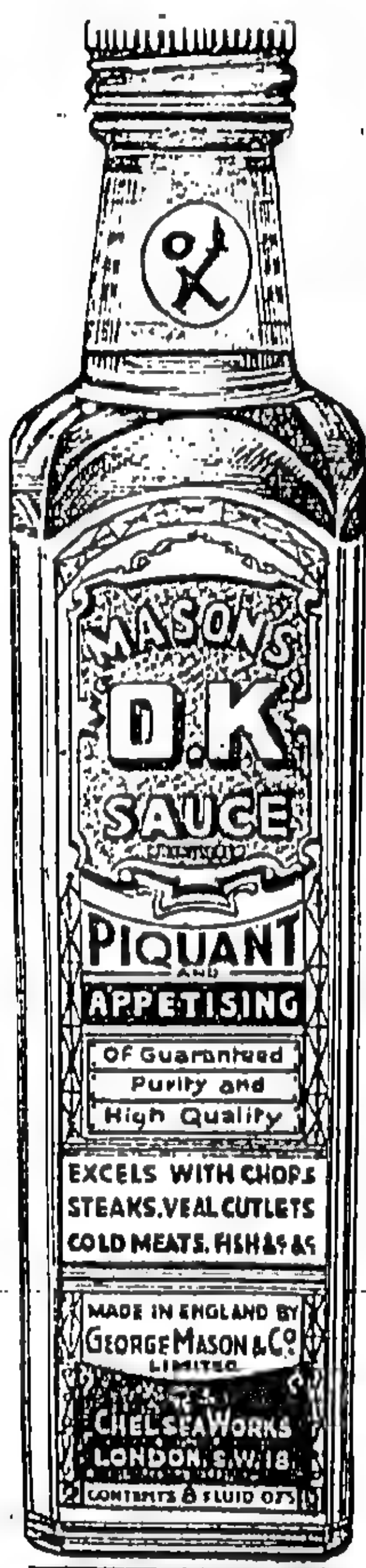
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DON IDDON'S DIARY

No Shake-Ups And No Purges In Washington

The first Socialist attempt to
paint the White House red has
failed.

President Truman, informed by
Left-Wingers that his election
victory was a triumph for Labour
and a mandate for Government
control, has shown the radicals
the door.

He has assured business that it
has nothing to fear from him,
putting private enterprise on the
back, and come out plainly for
the American (capitalist) Way of
Life.

Pennsylvania-avenue today is
littered with broken hopes of
American Attlees, and home-
cropped Chippies.

Plans Upset

They planned to move in at
four-year guests at the White
House, but Mr. Truman, with as
many representatives of Wall
Street in his Cabinet as Herbert
Hoover had, announces no shake-
ups, no purges.

Perhaps now the Socialists in
Britain will take the hint. Every
time they had Harry Truman's
election as a Socialist success,
they appear as political clowns
and clingers.

When Americans went shop-
ping at the polls they didn't buy
a Labour Government. The pres-
ent U.S. Administration is no
more Radical than Britain's Con-
servative Party, and in many
ways not as liberal.

Altogether it has been a dis-
appointing week for all those try-
ing to climb on to the Tru-
man bandwagon. Madame
Chiang Kai-shek has had a deep-
freeze reception and a hostile
Press. Local comment is that
the influence of "she-power in
history" is waning.

I wonder how many more
wives of world leaders plan
trips?

Is Mrs. Attlee coming here on
State business? Do French, Ital-
ians, Greeks, Turks intend to
send their charming and gifted
wives to the White House?

I do not know. I am un-
biased, but suggest that perhaps a
woman's place is at home—not
the U.S. Treasury.

There is certainly no scheme
about to dispatch Mrs. Truman or
Margaret to London, Paris or
Nanking.

No, this time the old Chinese
magic is not working. And any-
way at three billion dollars a
performance it's too expensive.

Taxpayers would like to spend
some of it on getting to the bot-
tom of the Russian spy state.
For once again the Red agents
are with us and up to even more
blood-chilling tricks than usual,
according to the Un-American
Activities Committee.

Film Stars To Be At Inauguration

Washington, December 21.

Officials planning ceremonies for President
Truman's inauguration arranged for a colourful
week-long celebration complete with film stars,
fireworks and a huge parade.

Mr. Truman will be inau-
gurated on January 20.

The inaugural committee
chairman, Melvin Hildreth, said
the ceremonies will begin on
Sunday, January 16, with reli-
gious services in Washington
churches.

A tentative and still incomplete
schedule for the remainder of the
week calls for a symphony con-
cert at Constitution Hall, a parade
with floats down Pennsylvania
Avenue, big searchlights sweeping
the skies, a mammoth fireworks
display inauguration night and an
inaugural ball the following
night.

Mr. Truman's request for an
exceedingly simple inaugural
reviewing stand has nipped one
plan in the bud. Previously, in-

Now, says the Committee, 800
Moscow-trained American Com-
munists are "high officers of a
secret army now being drilled to
overthrow our Government."

Micro-filmed plots and plans,
confidential American military
and State Department papers are
being uncovered in pumpkins on
remote farms. Reds roam the
corridors of the Capitol.

'Red Herring'

Today the great inquiry which
was called red herring by Pres-
ident Truman and got a house-
laugh from the public is resur-
rected. Sensations, thrills, suspense,
action—all are promised and at
no admission fee. It should be
a diverting Christmas circus.

New York is also putting on a
show, not quite as terrifying as
Washington's, but excellent en-
tertainment. Within a few days
we have been given the full
stock treatment—sex, crime and
money.

The entire divorce system of
New York State has been de-
clared a racket, a flit business
and put-up job contrived by
crooked lawyers, desperate clients
and shrewd correspondents need-
ing dollars.

Under the law of this State
adultery is the only grounds for
divorce, and faced by this holy
decree people have obtained
their freedom by fraud, perjury
and collusion.

There is nothing very new
about this, of course—it has gone
on for years in Britain—but Dis-
trict Attorney Frank Hogan pro-
fesses astonishment and indigna-
tion, and 22,500 divorces granted
in Manhattan during the past
five years are being raked over
and dug into.

'Rich To Reno'

The old comment has been re-
vived: "The rich go to Reno.
The poor are forced to commit
perjury."

There is also a sweeping in-
vestigation of waterfront racket-
eering ordered by Mayor
O'Dwyer, who says so many
thugs and crooks are operating
on the waterfront that some ship-
pers are refusing to lease city-
owned piers.

The third sensation provided
for New Yorkers was an an-
nouncement that the city is be-
ing flooded with the greatest amount
of counterfeit money in history.

Now almost every time you
change a note the shopkeeper
holds it against the light and
fixes you with a suspicious eye.
Despite these lapses of human
behaviour, however, preparations
for Christmas are well advanced.
Enormous trees rigged with

coloured lights and tinsel have
been erected along Park Avenue.
There is a giant tree 100 ft. tall
facing the skating rink in Rocke-
teller Centre.

In the stores front win-
dows studded with red, blue, green and
yellow bulbs decorate the walls,
and most shops have broken out
with holly and mistletoe.

Battalions of frayed Santas,
rigged up in scarlet gowns,
bearded and hooded, have been
lured from streets and doss-
houses at 10 dollars a day by
floor managers.

But it's not going to be a
boom Christmas, according to the
experts. Sales so far are 10 per
cent below last year's.

**NEWS HAS ALSO BEEN
MADE HERE BY:** The Stewarts,
Sir Osbert and Edith are the two
most-sought-after British people
in town; public indignation at the
fuss and setting of former Iraqi
chief, Monachem Beighn butcher
of many British boys in Pales-
tine; Lord Vansittart's state-
ment, "I would like to see us
tell Stalin to call his jackals to
order."

Harsh Word

Tex Harrison has infuriated the
Hollywood Press by saying that
he considers the columnists out
there "moronic." This is a harsh
word.

But the truth is that the stan-
dard of journalism in the film
city is appallingly low. Harrison
also says: "Hollywood is done for,
Hollywood and I have no future
in common, and I doubt if Hol-
lywood has any future at all."

This statement has made every-
one connected with American
film-making jump on Harrison
with both feet. It will harm the
British actor's Broadway opening
in "Anne of the Thousand Days."

Harrison's wife, Lilli Palmer,
has also been speaking up: "Hol-
lywood journalism is such that
when actors do some little human
thing that could happen to any-
one they are not only torn down,
they are torn to shreds."

Footnote: The Congressional
Investigating Committee calls it-
self un-American. It is.

FRANCO-ITALIAN TALKS OPEN

Cannes, December 20.

The French Foreign Minister,
M. Robert Schuman, met the
Italian Foreign Minister, Count
Ciano, in Cannes today.
In a talk lasting two and a half
hours, the two Ministers agreed
that everything possible should be
done to increase commercial ex-
changes between France and Italy
and achieve a better balance of
trade between the two countries.
The Ministers will meet again
tomorrow.—Reuter.

FIRE IN PALACE

Copenhagen, December 21.
A fire broke out in the Danish
Royal Palace yesterday. Firemen
from 20 engines put out the blaze
in a few minutes as King Frederik
watched.—Associated Press.

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Italian Strike's Varying Success

Rome, December 20.

Official circles estimated late tonight that the
strike of Italian public employees was about
40 per cent effective in the North.
It varied from five per cent in Rome to 20 or 25 per
cent in the centre and the South.

Most railway traffic was
brought to a standstill in Cen-
tral and Northern Italy.

The Secretary-General of the
Communist-controlled Italian
General Confederation of La-
bour, Signor Giuseppe di Vi-
torio, claimed tonight that the
strike is more successful than
had been expected.

Five thousand strikers, meet-
ing at the historic Coliseum to-
day, heard the Secretary of the
Railwaymen's Union describe the
day increases offered them as so
small as to constitute an offence.
Police manned all railway
stations and accompanied all
trains which left Rome. Rein-
forced guards protected the
Ministries.

Train services were frequent
in Southern Italy and Sicily but
the North, where Communist in-
fluence is much stronger, had
little rail traffic. In Bologna, in
the heart of the Communist
stronghold of Emilia, the strike
was complete.

Milan Too

Reports from Milan said the
Independent Railway Union
has joined the strike there.

The Independent Rome news-
paper, Memento Sera, blaming
the Government for the strike,
said tonight: "It should have
either fully refused all salary in-
creases to civil servants if the
budget really will not stand it,
or conceded a satisfactory in-
crease."

Official sources said 85 to 90
per cent of civil servants were
at work at midday today. Rome's
main post office in the Piazza
San Silvestro was open. A
trunk line calls and telegram
services to the provinces were
functioning at 10 a.m.

No trains from Italy reached
Chiasso and Somoledola on the
Italian-Swiss frontier, but ser-
vices in Southern Italy and Sicily
were running. Ten trains, in-
cluding express from Milan,
Turin and Naples, left Rome.—
Reuter.

Gaulle Plan For Defence

Paris, December 21.

General Charles de Gaulle,
leader of the French People's
 Rally, in a speech to the Na-
tional Council of his Rally to-
night, supported a defence
system common to all the
States which defend European
civilisation.

General de Gaulle added: "Let
us also establish the main lines
of an economic union of the free
States of Europe in agreement
with the glorious and practical
steps taken by the United States."

He reaffirmed his opposition to
rebuilding Germany on the old
lines. He said Germany must be
considered a federative entity
which could be integrated in a
European union.

The Ruhr could take part in a
European union with an inter-
national status but without los-
ing its German character.—Reu-
ter.

JEWISH REFUGEES TO BE AIRLIFTED

Stockholm, December 21.

A new airlift for Jewish refugees was inaugurated
here today.

Thirty-eight young Jewish
women left Stockholm for
Israel by way of Marseilles in
a chartered Scandinavian Dou-
glas airliner.

The flight was arranged by the
American Urgent Distribution
Committee, an agency assisting
overseas Jewry, which an-
nounced that five other flights
are due from Sweden this month.
The six flights will take a total
of 195 emigrants from Sweden
to Israel.

The joint distribution Com-
mittee also hope to assist a fur-
ther 1,000 Jewish refugees from
Sweden to reach Palestine in
1949.

Visas in Sweden were ar-
ranged through the Swedish
office of the Jewish Agency.
Most of the emigrants are
young women who were
rescued from Nazi concentra-
tion camps in 1945 by the late
Count Folke Bernadotte and
the Swedish Red Cross.

They are now being employed
in Swedish industries.



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Editorial

Christmas

The 25th day of December has a different meaning to people in various stages of life. To the child, it is a day of innumerable gifts, candy and Santa Claus.

To young people, it is a grand holiday of festivities which only young and unburdened hearts can fully enjoy. And to parents, it is a day of pride and thanks-giving to God, manifested through the loving atmosphere of their homes.

But to all without exception, it is a day of supreme joy. It is Christmas!

The feeling of love and goodwill towards all cannot be more effectively inspired by any occasion than the anniversary of the holy nativity—a majestic date in our calendar, indeed, a chance to join hands with our neighbours over the differences which the days in the year have brought about.

This is the first opportunity that the Topics has had to celebrate with you, to join hands with you all in cherishing the old wish that is forever new: Love and goodwill towards all and a Very Merry Christmas.

Competition

A number of good stories were received for the last competition and the winning entries are published in this issue.

Prize winners are Joyce Pomeroy, Prince Edward Road, Kowloon (\$6), and Denis Along (\$4).

The prizes will be in the mail today.

Back again we go to the news personalities contest. Below are five names jumbled up. They were in our news columns and pictorial supplements during the past week. Prizes are \$8 and \$4 for the two first entries opened.

1. ASLRATVI—Virgin Mary in Wonder Night.

2. DBEKAAATHLR—J. K. girl married in Shanghai.

3. GGGRRMEALLISA—Nine years old.

4. LAERHVE—Red Riding Hood.

5. DGNONIQAUTSA—soloist in concert.

Charity At Christmas

Jeane sat quietly at the breakfast table with her hands folded before her, breakfast untouched.

Her eyes stared fixedly at a picture of her parents on the mantelpiece, while two large tear drops ran down her shining cheeks.

In this mood, the orphan's thoughts wandered off into the past where Christmas had seemed like a nightmare. This time of fun and happiness could only be enjoyed in the presence of cheerful parents.

Jeane was awakened to the present once by the cheerful shouts and gay laughter of the younger generation. Hurriedly she rose from the table and walked to the window. The scene outside was a definite consolation to her red moist eyes.

The children in their bright coloured suits and with rosy chubby faces were displaying their great collection of Christmas gifts. Drums, trumpets, sledges, dolls, books, trains and toys of every colour and kind were strewn on the floor. The children too, on this day, were livelier than ever.

But attention was soon drawn to a crippled boy sitting quietly reading a book on his front porch. While her gaze rested upon the child, an idea entered her head. Her Christmas could be spent in bringing joy to others even if she herself could not find any.

An hour later, a breathless red faced Jeanne stood before the matron of St. Mary's Hospital, asking permission to entertain the sick.

When permission was given she began immediately on her good intention. With forced enthusiasm and concern she remained in the hospital all day bringing laughter and fun to the bed ridden with her songs and stories.

Her unselfish and noble work brought life to those who otherwise would have spent their Christmas in a hum-drum monotony of hospital routine.

JOYCE POMEROY

Personality

Laureen Clemo is 16 years of age. She was born in Hong Kong on January 13, 1932, and travelled to Australia when she was eight, returning to the Colony two years ago.

Laureen learned ballet dancing when she was five, and for the next three years took part in many of the ballet shows in Hong Kong staged by her teacher, George Goncharoff.

When Laureen arrived in Australia, she added the study of music to her cultural interests, doing the course in the Sydney Conservatorium, meanwhile attending—Wenona High School.

She is now in King George V School, but is leaving Hong Kong in February next year for finishing school in Switzerland. Laureen hopes to come to the Colony after two or three years abroad.

Her reading is chiefly mystery stories and romances. She finds fascination in stage work and has appeared in many local productions, the latest of which is the YMCA pantomime, "Red Riding Hood" in which she plays the prince.



LAUREEN CLEMO

Thanks, Mistletoe!

It was the most magnificent night of the year, Christmas Eve, and the teen agers of Kowloon were going to celebrate that momentous event with a midnight stag session at their club, "Sweet Sixteen."

The lads had contracted to spring a big surprise on the unsuspecting lasses before the dance, and they met at the club hours earlier, and started on a huge Christmas wreath of mistletoe.

"The chicks would probably murder us for this idea," declared Burt, brushing the dirt off his tuxedo. "A mistletoe can work such wonders," he proudly stated, nothing with a laugh. "This is one wreath that will bring happiness."

When pretty Marion, dressed in a pink pastel frock, arrived at the club she was exceedingly astonished to find a flock of mumbling girls standing outside the club in the cold night. She squirmed through the crowd and inquired loudly, "What's eating you girls?" A few of the shivering lasses complained together, "Those boys have us usual, cooked up some ingenious idea," pointing to the entrance, covered with a huge branch of mistletoe.

Marion pondered. Burt must be responsible again. That hunk who was her closest rival in everything, but secretly her dream boy. Marion was dynamite when she was angry and she courageously led the pack of girls through the giant wreath, shouting encouragingly, "No one is going to stop me from getting an earful of that rocking rhythm of Duke."

She walked through the wreath right into the arms of handsome Burt who kissed her and whispered, "Merry Christmas, sugar."

He then led her, hands entwined, to the dance floor and spoke out earnestly and with confidence, "I have been waiting the whole evening for this."

DENIS ALONG

Platter Chatter

Correcting the typographical error in last week's article, the sentence should read: A few days later the U. S. Army declared Major Glenn Miller "officially dead."

Correspondence.

Thank you, Bellinda. I will deal with Charlie Barnett, Mel Powell and Louis Armstrong at a later date when more of their records become available.

Barnett's Popsicle Turnpike has been reprinted and to my ear it is the best disc he has made. The conversational piece between trumpet and sax is reminiscent of Artie Shaw's Dr. Livingstone I Presume.

Corny Harmony From Mallow Haarts

As Christmas approaches you will be searching for platters suitable for the festive season, particularly those which will provide the opportunity for communal singing.

Nobody with a glass in hand will let My Bonnie, Two Loves, or Black Eyes go unjoined. Every one knows the words of Ditty, Daisy, but few sing Auld Lang Syne correctly.

With the shortage of records, anyone who can do better than the family cat will be Chairman of the Keyboard. The basso profundo will assault the carmons with Sailor Beware, taking the last note from under the piano stool.

The coloratura will insist on Blowing Bubbles and you can always count on someone singing Irish Eyes in every key but the prevailing one.

Orchestras will function from 8 p.m. until the "wee sma's." Hotel dance floors will be, so packed you will be glad your ribs have been hardened getting into the ferries.

At the clubs some will oscillate with grace, others waddle and not a few flounder. It's a long way to Tipperary but where did you shy the bar wuz?

Xmas Discography

Still available at time of writing: Dinah Shore: Auld Lang Syne; Fats Waller: Swing Those Jingle Bells; Bing Crosby and Andrews Sisters: Santa Claus is Coming to Town; Jingle Bells; Bing Crosby: God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen.

A Merry Christmas to my readers. The Wren.

SUSIE



"Why be embarrassed, Susie? ... We all understand that everybody goes through an awkward stage!"

TIT BITS

Luiz Souza arrived back in the Colony last week to spend his Christmas with his parents. Luiz is studying in Melbourne, Australia, (Xavier College) and has been there now for 20 months. He is here on a eight-week holiday and will be returning to his studies early in February next year.

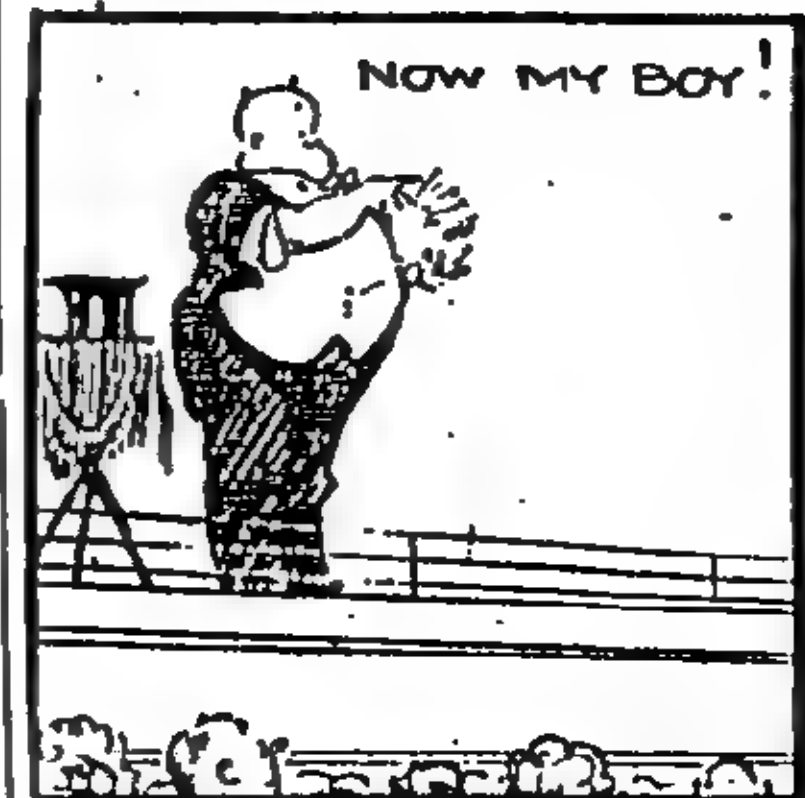
The Anderson sisters, sports page news of the summer months, are at the moment busy catching up with their cultural interests. They were seen charmingly draped, attending the Light Orchestra Concert at the Gripps lately, and also at a number of stage plays.

A one time regular contributor to the Topics, Wanda R. has interested herself in choral singing. She took part in St. Thomas More Association's last concert at the Fleet Club.

Pippa Portallion has decided to embark on a career of fashion designing. She leaves for the U.K. with her parents next year where she will be taking up the course. Meanwhile in Hong Kong, she plays hockey.

For a good laugh to prepare yourselves for the Christmas mood, go and see "Red Riding Hood" at the European YMCA. More than half the cast are made up of teen agers.

POP



MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN



RIP KIRBY



By ALEX RAYMOND



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A Christmas Serial Story

MRS. SANTA CLAUS

"How about a dance, Bill?" he asked.

"All gone but the eleven," Bill answered. "You can have it. That only leaves me the first and last," he added gloomily.

Dolph took that, then hunted up the man, who was managing the dance. "Make the eleven a moonlight waltz," he urged. "I got special reasons."

"Yeah, and all the other boys want their particular dance with that special reason turned into a moonlight waltz," he answered. "Jed Morgan's got the seventh dance, you know. He got here early."

"All I want is the moonlight waltz," Dolph insisted.

As Marion danced the first five numbers, she realised Dolph was something of a charmer. The girls were breathless and flushed when he came for his dance, and they were even more so when he left them. Marion wondered why they weren't equally thrilled when Jed Morgan came along. He impressed her as being all wood and a yard wide.

This impression increased as she danced with him. Afterwards, he introduced her to his brother Jeff's wife, a girl of nineteen with worried eyes and a planning baby in her arms. Whenever she looked at Dolph, something like fear filled their depths. She might have been looking at a rattlesnake. Marion guessed Anna Morgan had a constant picture of Dolph pouring lead into her husband's body.

A few minutes later, Dolph swooped down on the mayor's wife and treated her as if she were a girl of twenty. Marion heard her say, "Dolph, you're a no-good, heart-breaking, deceiving devil, but I like you. Now listen, leave the new school-teacher alone. She's a sweet kid."

"Too late," Dolph answered. "I'm fixing to throw my loop over that pretty red head."

When the eleven dance came along, Dolph was waiting. "I didn't want to miss a note," he said. Then Marion was in his arms. The lights went out and a paper moon, lighted by a single lamp appeared.

Marion thought, "The brute can dance." He held her lightly at first, but presently there was a tightening of his arms and she grew conscious of the hardness of those arms and the vigour of his body. She grew a little stiff as he became possessive, then relaxed. It was so much nicer.

There were three encores and as the last neared the end, Dolph slowed down. His timing was perfect, and he danced her through a convenient door into a moonlit park.

"Intermission," she protested.

"I came with Bill Gallop," she said. "But he hasn't his brand on you yet," Dolph retorted.

"And if he has—well, I'm a natural-born rustler and I can do a brand from G to E." He grinned impudently and leaned forward as if to kiss her, then said, "No, the time isn't ripe yet. When I kiss you again, I expect to be kissed back."

"Listen, my fine feathered friend," Marion said calmly. "One of these days you'll meet a girl who'll take the wind out of your sails."

"That'll be nice," he returned. "A man gets tired of having them run into his arms whenever he opens them."

She knew he didn't mean a word of it, and yet there was something behind his words that she didn't understand. He said, "I expected a quick comeback on that one."

"We aren't getting serious, are we?"

He flashed her a quick, puzzled look, then answered, "I might be at that, and not know it."

"Let's talk about the Elliotts and Morgans," Marion suggested. "I've met many of them, and all are fine people. Why don't you finish the feud?"

"I'm doing my damndest," he replied. "I shoot every Morgan I can find, but the trouble is, I can't find 'em off the reservation. Shooting is the only way to wipe out coyotes." The hard viciousness that Marion hated in him was showing again.

Marion was thinking, "These people, even Dolph, can be reached. There's a common ground on which they all meet, something that they all understand, like Christmas. That's the common ground I've been groping for—Christmas." She turned to him and said, "Feuding isn't the sensible way. You could leave Morgan range and

By Frank Richardson Pierce

fatten your cattle. And when the grass is gone on Morgan range, they could leave yours. All cattle could be driven through your country. Both outfits would profit. Now, you'd rather hate. You deprive both families of the things they need. It makes you a bunch of bad sports."

"You schoolteachers are all alike," he told her. "You preach peace to the kids at school. But when they come home we preach hate, so you get nowhere." She said, "I'm planning a big Christmas celebration, and I hope to see the grown-up Morgans and Elliotts there."

"The grown-ups won't come to your celebration."

"Want to bet on it?"

He kissed her suddenly. "You've got nerve. I admire it. I respect it, though it doesn't belong here. I've never known a plucker girl. And that one time I didn't expect to be kissed back."

"I'm glad you gave me a glimpse of the Dolph Elliott," she told him. "A girl might learn to care a lot for that man. Now I've said too much."

"This thing between us has taken the bit in its teeth," he growled. "and is moving too fast." And, for some reason, she thought of a fierce, free-soaring eagle, with a foot caught in a trap.

When intermission ended Marion found Bill Gallop with a purposeful girl named Eunice Webb. "Somebody switched the intermission time on me," Bill grumbled. "and I couldn't get away from Eunice. I'm sorry. I suppose Dolph made you think he is hopelessly in love with you. He always does."

She didn't answer, wondering how much of what Dolph said had been sincere and how much an act. She thought, "I can admire a good actor on the stage."

Bill took her to a restaurant after the dance, then he drove her home. He went in, lit the lamps, built a fire, looked around and hesitated. "Got a gun?" he asked.

"Do I need one?"

"I suppose not," he replied, "but it makes a person feel better when there's a gun around. I'll bring you a shotgun and show you how to use it. That is, if you expect to stay."

"I expect to stay," she said. "I won't leave this week."

"They'll start in all over again, Monday," Bill predicted.

Marion watched the Elliott and Morgan children take their seats on Monday morning, and at first

all appeared to be calm. Then Les Morgan, age twelve, tried to grind his heel into Mike Elliott's instep. Mike whacked Les over the head with a stacking. There was a rock in the toe. Then Annie Elliott yanked hair from Marj Morgan's head. The school was in an uproar.

"Well," Marion said in what was supposed to be a surprised tone, "we have an abundance of energy on our hands this morning, and it must be worked off. Mike and Les, come up here. When the surprised boys appeared, she said, 'Start fighting. And the one who quits first is a sissy.'"

When the two boys were reeling from sheer exhaustion, she sent them out to the pump to wash up. "Now, Annie and Marj, come here. The two frightened girls walked slowly to her desk. "Start yanking hair and keep at it until I tell you to stop."

"Girl fight! Girl fight!" yelled an Elliott.

"Never mind the spectators," Marion said. "Get busy." She cracked their legs with a ruler.

With a singular lack of enthusiasm, the girls began yanking and sobbing. "Now go into the cloakroom and fix each other's hair," Marion ordered, when the two were almost hysterical. "Each morning, we're going to have fights and hair-pulling. You supply me with the candidates. And another thing, we're going to find out which family is the smarter. The Morgans or the Elliotts. I'm putting your names on the board, and each night we'll total the score."

Two weeks later, Jed Morgan dropped in after the children had gone home. "I hear you've been pulling off fights in the school-room," he said.

"Just a vest-pocket feud," she returned. "I play no favorites. 'You've got brains in that red head of yours,' he said. 'The kids are puzzled. Nothing like this has ever happened before.'"

"You're cheerful today," she observed. "Has the price of beef gone up?"

"No, but I winged Pete Elliott," he answered. "I was trying to pick me off and I got in the first shot. Sorry to say, I didn't kill the cuss. I wish it had been Dolph."

"Oh," Marion said weakly, but she didn't preach. By nature, Jed wasn't a killer. He was kind and generous, except in the matter of the range feud. In that respect, he was as bad as Dolph.

He looked at her a long time. "You're handling the kids just fine, but I'd give up on the old folks. It can't be done. Do you know I'm falling in love with you?" he suddenly asked.

"Oh, Jed, you mustn't." "His gaze was searching. 'So it's Dolph Elliott,' he said. 'It's always Dolph Elliott these days. And now I can't kill him, even if I get the chance because that would be hurting you.'"

"Why, I hardly know Dolph," she insisted.

"Maybe you don't, but—Aw, nothing is right with the world, it seems like," he grumbled. He stared moodily at the mountains, then said abruptly, "Good-bye, Marion."

Marion felt sorry for him. He was hungry for the sympathy and understanding of his ideal girl, and this was denied him. She sensed he would have preferred to spend his time improving stock instead of shooting Elliotts, but this, too, had been denied him from boyhood, and now the feud crowded out constructive things.

Marion had an idea Dolph Elliott would drop in the following day, but he didn't and she was conscious of an odd emptiness when her eyes strayed to the Elliott trail, as they often did. The week passed without incident, and the next week did not bring any visitors. She concluded Dolph was probably stalk-

ing Morgans to avenge Pete's shooting. The affair was not mentioned at school.

For the first time, her pupils seemed to be really interested in their work. Some days the Elliotts had a slight edge, then the Morgans went to work and improved their standing. The third week, Marion was ready for her next move. "I'm dividing the school into teams," she said. "One will be the Eagles and the other the Bears. The team that wins will not have to take final examinations."

Twenty-four hours later, Dolph Elliott rode into the yard. The children had gone and she said, "If you can stand my cooking, Dolph, I hope you'll stay for supper."

"I didn't come here to eat," Dolph growled. "You've mixed up Elliotts with Morgans in your Eagle and Bear teams. I'm not going to have Elliotts fighting Elliotts."

"We'll talk that over later. Let's eat," she suggested.

He agreed, and later he said, "You're a good cook, but that doesn't excuse you from—"

"Listen, Dolph," she interrupted. "I'm running the school. Where have you been lately?"

"Rounding up Elliotts so we could clean up the Morgans," he answered. "That and trying to keep from falling in love with you and by golly, I'll do it!"

He struck a match with such force that the head broke off and spluttered. He tried again and got a cigarette going. "Love raises the devil with a man—softens him up. Ace Elliott, the toughest one we ever had, fell in love with an author's person getting material. She clipped his wings, made him quit feuding, and finally took him out of the country."

He stopped smoking a moment and asked, "Are you laughing at me?" He grasped her with such force, it seemed as if her bones would snap. "Nobody is going to laugh at me. Understand?"

He shook her, then suddenly he was gentle. He took her into his arms with unutterable tenderness and kissed her. "Damn it all, I love you, but I'm not going to let it clip my wings. You've got to take me as I am, feudist and all. I won't change for any woman. But—maybe you don't love me?"

"I love you, Dolph," she answered softly, "but I will not change, either. You'd hate me if I did."

"Just give me time," he said, "and I'll have you feeling as I do about those blasted Morgans. Can we get married tomorrow?"

"Why, Dolph?" she exclaimed. "A girl needs time to buy her wedding things."

"All we had when she married was a new Mother Hubbard. She made it that morning, and they got tied that afternoon," he said.

"Besides I'm under contract to finish teaching school," she reminded him. "It wouldn't do to have an Elliott woman teach Morgan children."

"Why try to teach Morgans anything? They're dumb." Marion could have disputed that statement with facts and figures. "We can't be married until June. A contract is a contract."

"November, December—" he began. "All that time!"

"All that time, darling," she answered.

"Well, you're promised now. You can't go to any more dances with Bill Gallop, either," he said cheerfully. "And if Jed Morgan comes around, shoot him. You might just as well get used to dusting Morgan tail feathers."

When the Elliotts arrived at school the following morning, the older children had knowing gleams in their eyes, and one of them included Marion when he said, "Us Elliotts."

She played no favorites, which seemed to surprise the Elliotts. They got their second surprise when she announced, "We are going to have a Christmas celebration, and you are to invite your mothers and fathers."

"Do you mean Morgan mas and pas will be here, too?" an Elliott demanded.

"Of course," Marion answered, noting that the Morgan children were pop-eyed at the prospect.

(To Be Continued Tomorrow)

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Shipping Arrivals

YESTERDAY

DAIKEN (Johannes) ex-New York, 1.15 p.m.

HANYANG (D. S.) ex-Singapore, 1.15 p.m.

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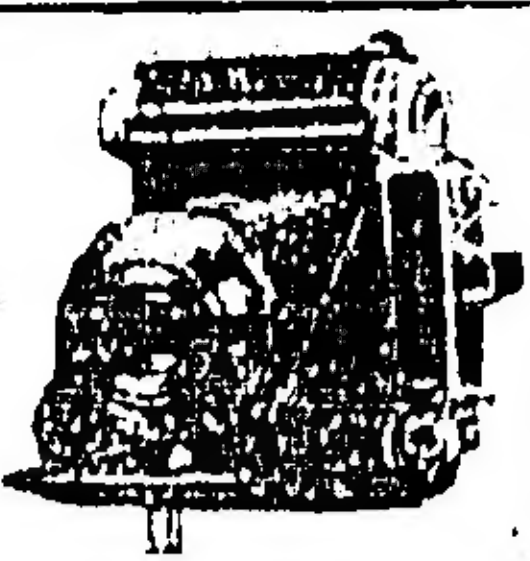
HANYANG (D. S.) ex-Singapore, 1.15 p.m.

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ENGLAND WINS TEST IN THRILLING FINISH

Durban, December 20.

In one of the most thrilling finishes ever seen in a Test match, England snatched a two wicket win off the last ball in the first Test against South Africa here today.

The crowd, cheering every run and every fall of wicket, jumped about with excitement as both sides struggled for victory during England's second innings, for a long period during which the outcome was altogether in doubt.

At the close, the scoreboard, both against time and bat, read: South Africa 161 and weather 219, England 253 and 128 for 1.

After a dramatic first day, England were left the task of scoring 128 in 130 minutes, with bad weather threatening to bring play to a premature close.

Batting in the fading light, which was worse than at any time in the match, their wickets tumbled to the first bowling of the day-old Chas McCarthy, playing in his first Test.

The score went from 40 for two to 70 for six, then Denis Compton (20) and Inland Jenkins (22) gave England a fighting chance with a seventh wicket stand of 45.

South Africa's hopes of victory began again when the next two wickets fell for the addition of only one run, but Alec Hedder (one not out) and Chas Gladwin (seven not out) slaved together to gain a great victory for England.

The excitement was so tense at the close that the umpires forgot to signal the leg-bye off Gladwin's stick, which brought victory to England off the last ball of the match.

Wonderful Debut

McCarthy in a wonderful Test debut took six wickets for 43 runs in 12 overs.

The foundation of South Africa's great fight was laid in their second innings by Wade and Hedder, who took part in a stand of 65 for the fifth wicket, Wade getting 63 and Hedder 48.

Starting the day two runs behind, with four second innings wickets down, South Africa were 139 for 6 at lunch and led by 47 runs.

After the stand by Wade and Hedder, South Africa lost two wickets in the space of five runs, Hedder was caught off Hedder for 48, and Oswald Dawson fell to a catch off Wright's bowling for three.

South Africa lost their last four wickets for 40 runs after lunch and were all out for 219.

England's task of scoring the 128 runs for victory was a race

SOUTH AFRICA				
1st Innings				
F. Bessie	10			
W. Wade	63			
A. Hedder	48			
O. Dawson	13			
C. Gladwin	7			
D. Compton	20			
I. Jenkins	22			
M. McCarthy	6			
Total	161			

ENGLAND				
2nd Innings				
L. Hutton	5			
C. Washbrook	25			
F. Mann	13			
D. Compton	18			
A. Watkins	4			
R. Simpson	4			
T. Evans	4			
J. Jenkins	22			
A. Hedder	22			
C. Gladwin	7			
Extras	10			
Total (1st 8 wickets)	128			

BOWLING				
	O	M	R	W
McCarthy	12	2	43	6
Tuckell	10	0	38	1
Mann	2	0	13	1
A. Rowan	4	0	15	0

Owing to the Christmas holidays, there will be no Hockey Association fixtures this coming Sunday.

Hierarchy Spoiling The U.N.

Washington, December 20.

Dr. Juan Bramuglia, Argentine Foreign Minister, in an interview with the weekly magazine, the United States News, today analysed the causes of the failure of the United Nations to settle the Berlin dispute.

The President of the Security Council during its debate on the Berlin crisis, Dr. Bramuglia criticised the practice of making distinctions between the status of great and small powers.

Dr. Bramuglia declared: "A theory of hierarchy is applied which is so absolute that it receives the old problems of the League of Nations. In the League there was also much argument between the theory of hierarchy, in which States are arranged in groups of different rank and power, and the theory of democracy, in which all States are equal."

"Now this same problem arises again in the United Nations, which is quite natural because the theory of hierarchy continues to be the principle of the juridical equality of States," he said.

Great Turn-Out For Savold

Oso, December 19.

Lee Savold, the American Norwegian heavy-weight, was given a great reception when he boxed exhibition bouts at the Solesseum Cinema here this afternoon.

He boxed two rounds back with the Norwegian heavy-weight, Aage Andersen, and the Norwegian middle-weight, Karl Norwell, and although Savold was pulling his punches, he clearly showed his superiority.

Afterwards, there was a demonstration of the type of punch which brought about Savold's disqualification against the British champion, Ernie Woodcock, in London recently.

Savold's manager, Bill Daly, hit him with a similar punch and then gave Savold a hard kick in the same spot without much effect owing to Savold's protective belt.—Reuter.

HK Rotary's Ladies' Day

More than 200 people attended Hong Kong Rotary's Ladies' Day luncheon at the Hong Kong Hotel Roof Garden yesterday.

Rotarians and Rotary-Anns joined in singing Christmas carols after luncheon, to music rendered by the George Lin Family Orchestra.

The musical programme was thoroughly enjoyed, and on the proposal of Rotarian C. E. Menden, a hearty vote of thanks was passed for Rotarian George Lin and his family orchestra.

Among visiting Rotarians present were Past District Governor Dr. C. T. Wang, President Percy Kwok, J. Muckla, Leon Kwok and Bill Sung, all of Shanghai, and Victor Bakshi and Bangkok.

FINED FOR DRIVING WITHOUT LICENCE

For driving a lorry without a licence and without the owner's permission, Ng Sung, aged 21, of the Modern Garage at Tai Po Road was fined HK\$100 by Mr. Blair Kerr at Kowloon yesterday.

Defendant was cautioned on the second charge and was ordered to pay the China Light and Power Company Limited HK\$100 compensation.

At the Parking Lot at Tai-po Road near the junction of Pei Ho Street on December 16, defendant while backing his lorry, collided with the lamp post and completely smashed the lamp which was valued at HK\$100.

INTER-VARSITY SPORTS PLAN

A series of Football, Ping Pong, Basketball, Badminton and Tennis games will be played between the Hong Kong University and the Lingnam University of Canton during the Christmas holidays.

The Lingnam players are expected here on December 23 and will play their first games on December 24.

The Hong Kong University Flippers XI will also be visiting Macao for a series of games during the holidays.

Yacht Club Elects New Sailing Captain

The General Committee of the Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club has elected Lt. Cdr. D. E. Bromley-Martin, RN, to be Sailing Captain of the Club to succeed Mr. T. F. Honess, who is leaving the Colony for U.K. immediately after Christmas.

Mr. Honess was one of the original officers of the Services Sailing Club which was formed here exactly three years ago to bridge the gap until the RHYC itself was able to take over.

Lt. Cdr. D. E. Bromley-Martin has done valuable work as Chairman of two Regatta Committees at the club this year and so is in an excellent position to take over from Mr. Honess.

Last week-end at the club saw the first heats in the Star and Dinghy Regatta Championship, the third in the Ladies Autumn series, and the final races in the Autumn open dinghy series and Autumn Jubilee Shield. The result of the Jubilee Shield is as follows:

AUTUMN JUBILEE SHIELD

1st. Michael (Mr. F. J. Graham), 2nd. Michael (Mr. G. L. Sublet), 3rd. Michael (Mr. R. A. C. Beecham), 4th. Michael (Mr. R. A. C. Beecham), 5th. Michael (Mr. R. A. C. Beecham).

AUTUMN OPEN DINGHY CHAMPIONSHIP

This consisted of 10 races of which the "best five results" scored, and has been won by Mr. T. F. Honess with a total of 153 points out of a possible 165. Mr. Honess was a close runner-up with 148 points. There were 61 entries in this championship.

Last Saturday's Ladies race was won by Miss Blackmore and now at least four ladies are in a position where, by winning next Sunday's morning race which starts at 9.00 a.m., any one could win both the Autumn Series and the Christmas Ladies Cup.

The Dinghy and Jubilee races last Saturday were abandoned after hours of drifting with little wind, although three Dragons did press on to complete the course in a dark wet evening until 7 p.m. By this time however, the abandonment race procedure had come into force. Three Star heats were completed during the week-end and the first open dinghy heat. The open Sweepstake race in dinghies on Sunday afternoon was won by Captain B. I. Robertson RN.

There have been some amendments to the programme of the Regatta next week-end. The detailed Regatta pamphlet will be available on Thursday December 23 and can be obtained from the Yacht Club or from the office of Cable & Wireless (Gloucester Hotel, 1st Floor).

Sunday starts with the cruise race to Mueno at 7.00 a.m. It is hoped to see the cruisers back again in time for the prize-giving on Monday evening.

TEAM RACE

The following is the team to represent the club in the race against the Combined Services on Monday at 10.00 a.m.:

BOATS		1st vent 2nd event	
Mr. Honess (Captain)	6	8	
Mr. Hooper	5	4	
Mr. Child	14	11	
Mr. Du Roid	13	11	
Mr. Gordon	25	21	
Mr. Mallorie	16	14	
Mr. Van Rylow	19	17	
Mr. De Jong	20	18	
Mr. Barry	21	22	
Mr. Milner	26	22	

STAR SEMI-FINALS

The following is the draw for the Star semi-finals:

December 24		P.M.	
1	Honess	Shaw	Dew
2	Van Rylow	Gordon	Gordon
3	De Jong	Hooper	Hooper
4	Mallorie	De Jong	De Jong
5	Barry	De Jong	De Jong
6	Robertshaw	Honess	Honess

Tower Of London Housing Problem

London, December 21.

Even Britain's Crown jewels have housing and queuing problems.

Only 6,000 of the 20,000 visitors a day at the Tower of London are able to see the jewels. As a result, efforts are being made to move the display to larger quarters.

Colonel E. H. Carkel-James, Governor of the Tower of London, told reporters: "I think it is a scandal that only 200 people at a time can be accommodated in the Jewel House, which means that allowing them 10 minutes each, only 6,000 people each day can see the Crown jewels."

He says many visitors are horrified by the queue which sometimes stretches 100 yards long and seven deep.

"We know there is housing shortage and that materials are required," he adds, "but we are trying to persuade the Ministry of Works, and I hope soon we shall have the use of the dungeons of the White Tower (largest in the Tower of London group) for the display of the Crown jewels."

"There we can spread out a bit and there would be plenty of room."—Associated Press.

CLUB FIFTEEN

The following will represent Club in a rugby match against the 15th Regiment IRA on the Club Ground at 5.15 p.m. today:

Mackie, Gauntlett, Ward, Orchard, Tinson, Duck, Clarno, Baker, Kinghorn, Johnson, Minto, Cowley, Plowden, Allwright and Douglas.

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CHINA MAIL

HONG KONG, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1948.


ABDULLA

NUMBER SEVEN

"7"

IN PACKETS or TINS



SCORPIONS' BOWLERS STEAL THE SPOTLIGHT

(By "MID ON")

G. Pope Not Likely To Quit Cricket

London, December 19.

The announcement that George Pope, England fast bowler, has been released from his contract by Derbyshire County Cricket Club does not necessarily mean that he will disappear from the cricket field.

Already one club in the Lancashire League is stated to have approached him with a view of playing for them next season. Pope, one of three cricketers brothers, was for many years within reach of Test honours, and yet his only appearance for England was against South Africa at Lord's in 1947.

In 1938 and again last summer he was among the 12 men selected for the first Test against the Australians at Nottingham, but he did not play in either game.

Pope took part in three "Victory Tests" in 1945, spent the next season with the Colne Club in the Lancashire League, besides coaching in Ireland, and resumed with Derbyshire for the past summer, when, at the age of 37, he was first to complete the double of scoring 1,000 runs and taking 100 wickets.

Derbyshire are fortunate to possess such a capable successor as Leslie Jackson, their fast bowling discovery, who did splendidly in his first County season and was considered by some judges worthy of a place in the MCC team now touring South Africa.—Reuter.

ALL DAY CRICKET AT IRC

An all day cricket match has been arranged to take place at the Indian Recreation Club on Christmas Day between members "Over 35" and members "Under 35".

The match will start at 11 a.m. and the following have been selected to play:

"Over 35"

S. A. Ismail (Captain), A. R. Minu, A. H. Madani, A. K. Minu, A. K. Ismail, M. I. Razaq, A. H. Sufi, F. M. el Arculi, A. M. Runtjahn, D. M. A. Razack and I. Haroon. 12th man: S. H. Ismail.

"Under 35"

A. R. Abbas (Captain), K. Nazarin, A. R. Kitchell, Ismail Ali, I. M. Omar, A. H. Bakar, S. Khan, Sultan, A. el Arculi, S. K. Khan and Miskin Samy.

Howarth and Owen-Hughes, Club "Scorpions" opening pair of bowlers, stole the spotlight in Saturday's League cricket matches by running through the strong Army XI for 47 runs to give their team victory by nine wickets.

This game, which took place at Sookunpoo, was expected to be a closely contested one, but with Howarth and Owen-Hughes bowling at the top of their form, the Army were soon in difficulties and at one period the telegraph board showed only 15 runs for the loss of nine wickets. Then Phillips (25) and Jones (8) got together in a stout-hearted stand and brought the total to 47 before the former hit across one from Owen-Hughes and the innings came to a close.

Howarth bowled 11 overs for value for his 4 for 19, while S. M. Teh followed up his good batting by returning 4 for 32.

As I expected, Reccelo bent the Indian RC easily, winning by six wickets. The Indians, for some reason or other, paid too much respect to the Reccelo bowling which was steady without being dangerous and actually three or four of their men got out through sheer timidity to hit the ball really hard.

Most Exciting

Most exciting game of the afternoon was the Second Division affair between Kowloon and the Navy who were lucky to win by one wicket. Kowloon took first innings and were all out for 62, Gray being unluckily run out when he looked set for a big innings. As it turned out his 14 was top score, Randall coming next one run behind. Windmill and Noise shared bowling honours for the Navy, taking 5 for 30 and 4 for 21 respectively.

Clever handling of the Kowloon bowling by Gray kept the Navy total down and with their last pair in it was anybody's game until Price gave his side victory with a single. D. G. White claims the bowling honours with 5 for 23, Matthews helping with 3 for 13, and Hancock 1 for 17.

When Indian RC seconds were out for 50 runs, it looked as though Reccelo would have an easy win, but the Indian fielding was really at cover-point to give the Reccelo total was one short of the IRC score. Sales put up a difficult catch which A. K. Markar accepted readily at cover-point to give his side the points. The only bats to come off for IRC was M. A. Wahab who made 29 out of 60, while C. A. Gutierrez was highest scorer for Reccelo with his 18 (run out).

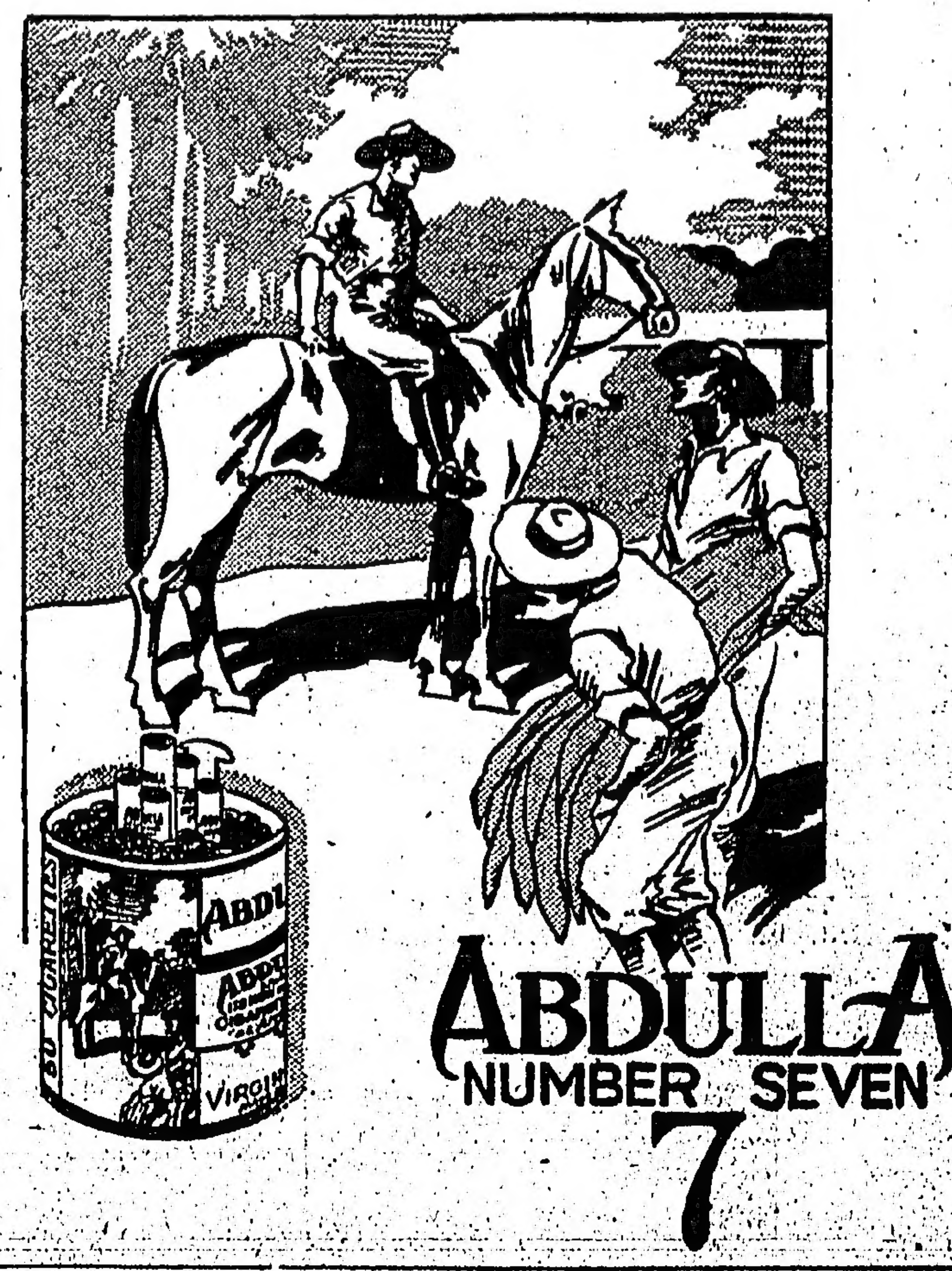
Shored Honours

University made the trip to Happy Valley where they were held to a draw by Craigengower. S. M. Teh (34) and D. Chelliah (34) shared batting honours for the Undergraduates while L. T. Ride helped with a useful 26, the University innings coming to a close at 164.

Craigengower would have been in a sorry state but for the fact that George Souza (35 not out) and K. Y. Tam (25), the former playing really pretty cricket and the latter in his best display to date this season.

For the University K. C. Koh bowled really well and was full

Season's Greetings from.....


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